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U.S. Warns Serbia After Kosovars Accept Plan

Clinton Sees No Option But Strikes if Belgrade Shows Intransigence

By Brian Knowlton
International Herald Tribune

WASHINGTON — As ethnic Albanians said they were prepared to sign on to a peace plan in Paris, President Bill Clinton said Monday that NATO would have little option but to undertake military action against Serbia if it showed "intransigence and aggression" in the province of Kosovo.

The United States praised the ethnic Albanians after they said they were "ready to sign" a peace agreement. Mr. Clinton said the decision showed that the West had pursued a "successful policy."

U.S. officials remained cautious, however, about the prospects for the new round of Kosovo peace talks in Paris. Secretary of State Madeleine Albright had no immediate plans to join the talks, aides said, with Serbia continuing to resist demands that it allow foreign peace-keeping troops in Kosovo.

Javier Solana Madariaga, secretary-general of NATO, who met Monday with Mr. Clinton to discuss NATO and its role in the Balkans, told reporters that he was "very, very concerned" about the situation in Kosovo. He said he feared that without an agreement, a "humanitarian catastrophe" might be difficult to avoid.

Mr. Clinton, asked how the North Atlantic Treaty Organization would react if President Slobodan Milosevic of Yugoslavia failed to join the agreement, said:

"If he shows intransigence and aggression, I think that, from my point of view, we would have little option" but to hit Serbian military targets.

In a veiled warning of the turmoil that would follow a NATO attack, Mr. Clinton said that signing the peace accord and allowing peace-keeping troops in Kosovo would be Mr. Milosevic's "best chance to preserve the integrity of Serbia and avoid economic and other adversity."

The decision of the ethnic Albanians, who form a majority in the Serbian province, to sign a peace agreement "tips the focus now entirely on Mr. Milosevic to make a choice between peace and further bloodshed," Mr. Clinton's national security adviser, Samuel Berger, said earlier.

Mr. Clinton conceded that NATO, with its threats of punitive bombings against Serbian targets, was operating in largely uncharted territory. "There's not a lot of precedent," he said, but he insisted that the alliance was determined to "avoid the level of atrocity and death that we saw in Bosnia."

"We wanted to try to dramatically shorten the timetable from aggression and loss of innocent life and upheaval to action," Mr. Clinton said. "And so far, I would say that it seems to have been a successful policy."

Mr. Clinton said the Serbs would have time to consider their response. "We need to give everybody time to assess the current situation," he said, while adding, "Obviously, they can't go on indefinitely."

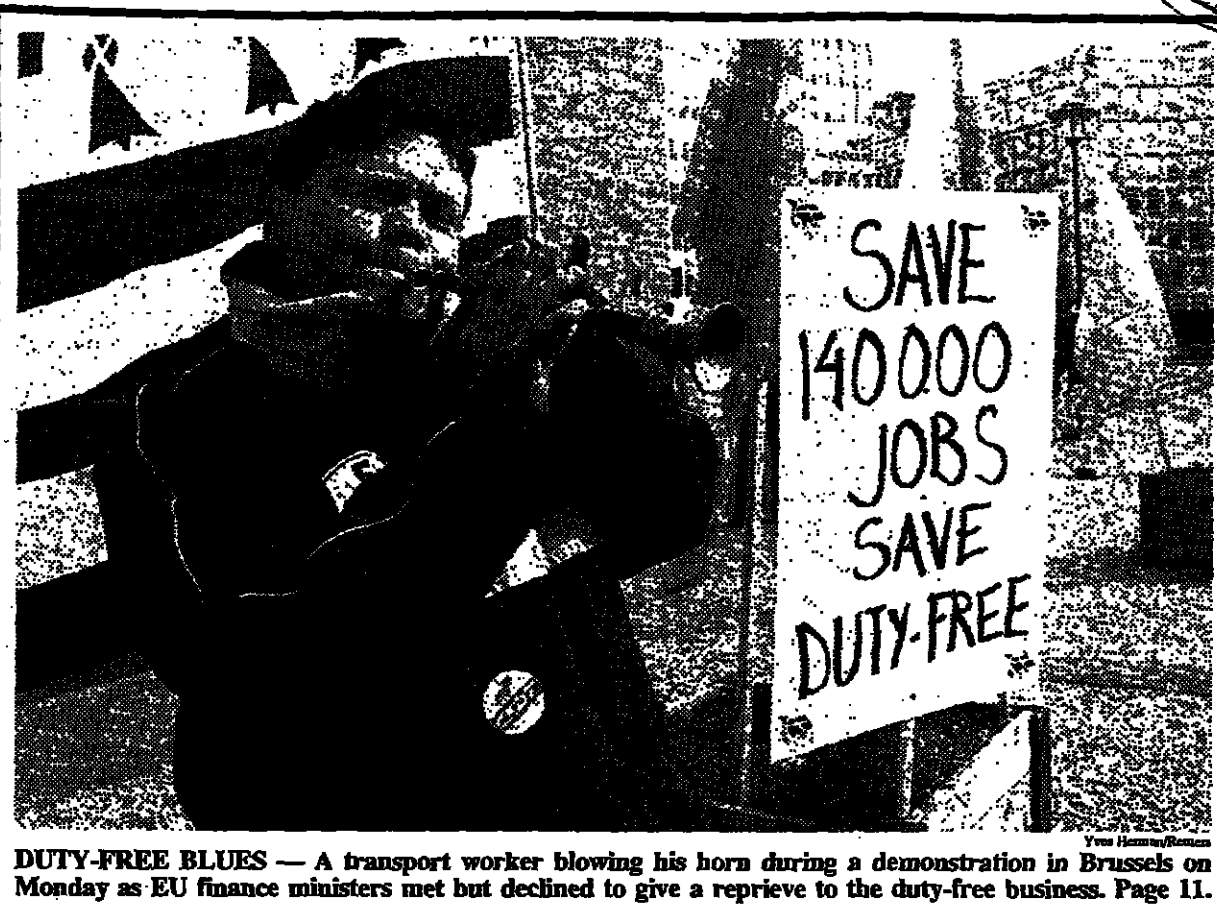
Questions have been raised about precisely how NATO would react if Mr. Milosevic continued to block a peace plan, whether the alliance has the will to pursue an air campaign, and what its objectives would be.

Earlier, at a breakfast meeting with foreign correspondents, Mr. Solana said that only an agreement allowing NATO to send peace-keeping forces "would guarantee what we want to guarantee—no massacres," as well as a possibility for Kosovo self-government, and containment of the turmoil.

Without an agreement, Mr. Solana added, "I am very pessimistic."

The Western allies, he said, were determined to prevent further atrocities.

NATO bombing attacks in that event, he said, would not be intended to "bomb the Serbs back to the table" but to "damage, and damage seriously," Serbian capacity to inflict violence.



DUTY-FREE BLUES — A transport worker blowing his horn during a demonstration in Brussels on Monday as EU finance ministers met but declined to give a reprieve to the duty-free business. Page 11.

Sweden Pays the Price of High Taxes

Nation's Corporations and Brains Flee for More Favorable Shores

By Tom Buerkle
International Herald Tribune

STOCKHOLM — Electrolux AB, the big Swedish appliance maker, scoured the globe for a person to set up a new data-processing division last year before finding Stephan Carlquist, a Swede and senior executive at ABB Asea Brown Boveri in the United States.

Persuading him to jump to Electrolux was no problem, but bringing him to Sweden, home of the industrialized world's highest tax rates, was another

matter. Instead, Mr. Carlquist set up shop in London, where the taxes are lighter, the industry contacts closer and European travel connections easier.

Over the next year, he plans to build a multinational team of as many as 50 people — few of them Swedes.

"It's very hard to attract skilled, international people to Sweden," Mr. Carlquist said.

Welcome to globalization, Swedish-style. In recent months, Sweden's sense of economic security has been jolted by the loss of several corporate bastions,

such as the pharmaceutical company Astra AB, the paper company Stora AB and the car division of Volvo AB, to foreign merger partners.

To some extent, the deals were the inevitable price of success for companies that have outgrown the Swedish market and become global players.

But with the exception of Volvo, the mergers have seen corporate headquarters move to places like London and Helsinki, taking lots of highly paid jobs

See SWEDEN, Page 5

Panel Condemns Conduct Of European Commission

By Barry James
International Herald Tribune

BRUSSELS — An independent investigating committee issued a damning report Monday on the European Commission, the European Union's executive body, accusing it of mismanagement, favoritism and conduct that was "not acceptable."

"It is becoming difficult to find anyone who has even the slightest sense of responsibility," the inquiry concluded. It also said the commission had lost political control.

Pauline Green, leader of the 214-member Socialist group in the European Parliament, called the report "devastating and hard-hitting." She said the commission should "accept its responsibility and resign." If it does not do so,

she said, "we will introduce a motion of censure to force it out."

She said the Socialist bloc, the strongest in the Parliament, would not be satisfied with the resignation of individual commissioners.

The president of the commission, Jacques Santer, planned to meet leaders of the parliamentary political groups on Tuesday morning and was expected to announce the commission's response to the report.

Many legislators speculated late Monday that the commission would resign en masse.

"My view is that the commission should resign tonight," said Edward McMillan Scott, a British Conservative member of the Parliament who has been

See EU, Page 8

China Rebuffs U.S. On Spying Charges

Beijing Moves To Modernize Atomic Forces

America Can 'Vent Spleen,' Zhu Declares

By David E. Sanger
and Erik Eckholm
Washington Post Service

By John Pomfret
Washington Post Service

BEIJING — Prime Minister Zhu Rongji said Monday that reports in the United States that China pilfered nuclear-weapons secrets were a "tale from the Arabian nights" and declared that his U.S. trip next month would give Americans a chance to "vent their spleen" over the tense state of Washington's ties with Beijing.

In a press conference at the conclusion of the annual meeting of China's rubber-stamp Parliament, the 71-year-old Soviet-trained engineer cited the French philosopher Jean-Jacques Rousseau and Shakespeare, chiding U.S. Secretary of State Madeleine Albright about her concerns on human rights and poking fun at U.S. fears over alleged North Korean

plans to develop nuclear weapons. "All of the advanced weapons are developed by the United States," Mr. Zhu said. "So what really are you so afraid of?"

[The CIA announced Monday that it would conduct a damage assessment to determine how much sensitive nuclear weapons information, if any, was lost to China through a suspected spy working at the Los Alamos National Laboratory. The Associated Press reported from Washington.]

Mr. Zhu griped that his photograph on a recent cover of Business Week made him look like a "corpse." He admitted to almost crying as he watched Chinese soldiers try to block floods this summer with nothing but their bodies. He hit a sensitive chord when he pledged that China would never target its missiles against its "brothers and sisters" in Taiwan. And he waxed apologetic, stating that his biggest disappointment last year — a difficult year for China — was that "I did not do a good job."

In both tone and content, Mr. Zhu's press conference Monday differed markedly from the unprecedented spectacle last year — his first news conference as China's prime minister. Then, Mr. Zhu issued a series of bold promises, pledging that in three years China would have a new housing system, a new banking system and a rejuvenated state-owned sector. On Monday, Mr. Zhu was much more tentative about China's economic future. While he scoffed at some Western reports claiming a major crisis was brewing in China, he acknowledged that the Asian economic crisis had affected China more seriously than he had expected.

Citing Shakespeare's "Merchant of Venice," Mr. Zhu asked foreign banks not to demand their "pound of flesh" — or early repayment — of loans taken out by Chinese financial institutions. The bankruptcy of a major Chinese investment house, Guangdong International Trust & Investment Co. in October rolled China's financial markets. He also pledged that China's telecommunications and banking sectors would be opened further to foreign investment but he did not say when.

See CHINA, Page 8

On Sunday, President Bill Clinton's national security adviser, Samuel (Sandy) Berger, defended the administration's investigation into the loss, but added, "There's no question that they've benefited from this." The Chinese again vehemently denied the accusations.

Despite continuing evidence of Chinese espionage abroad, most experts doubt that China intends to fundamentally change its largely defensive nuclear strategy or that it will try to alter the imbalance of weapons with the United States.

But many experts outside the U.S. government — including some who have talked at length with Chinese leaders and military officials — say Beijing is clearly seeking to modernize its nuclear forces, with a 10-year plan to make them more accurate, easier to launch and far less vulnerable to attack than they are today. And it is hoping to use high technology to offset its outmoded conventional forces.

What China seeks, they say, is an arsenal large enough to give them global status and deter the potential for nuclear blackmail, but small enough to avoid the

See MISSILES, Page 8

AGENDA

Renault's Interest in Nissan Sends Its Shares Up 13%

Shares of Nissan Motor Co. soared 13 percent Monday in Tokyo, but Renault SA's stock fell in late trading in Paris amid indications that the companies were close to an alliance in which Renault would buy a one-third stake in Nissan.

After talks over the weekend with Renault in Paris, Nissan's president, Yoshiyuki Hanawa, told the Nihon Keizai newspaper that an accord could be outlined to Renault's board as early as Tuesday.

But Renault cautioned that while it was talking about a deal to buy a stake in Nissan, it had not yet made a firm offer. Page 11.

Alps Jet Charges Are Dropped

CAMP LEJEUNE, North Carolina (Reuters) — The most serious charges were dismissed Monday against a second Marine Corps aviator facing court-martial in the deaths of 20 people killed when a U.S. military jet severed lift cables over an Italian ski resort last year, his defense attorney announced. Captain Joseph Schweitzer, the jet's navigator, will not be tried for involuntary manslaughter and negligent homicide.



STANDING ROOM ONLY — Prince Charles of Britain, surrounded by a welcoming party of local residents, visiting Sea Lion Island off the coast of the Falklands, where he is on tour.

With Salvos From Many Fronts, 'Chaos Awaits' Turkey

By Stephen Kinzer
New York Times Service

ISTANBUL — With a national election approaching, Parliament in open rebellion, terror attacks being mounted against civilians and the trial of a Kurdish guerrilla leader approaching, Turkey suddenly finds itself facing deep uncertainties.

"A chaos is now awaiting Turkey," Prime Minister Bulent Ecevit said over the weekend. "This is a totally new situation. We will have to think about it and see what happens."

He was speaking after disgruntled members of Parliament managed to convene an extraordinary session during the pre-election recess to challenge his

leadership. The group of legislators put forth a censure motion Monday in an attempt to overturn Mr. Ecevit's minority government, Reuters reported.

[Kurdish rebels, meanwhile, warned tourists on Monday to keep away from Turkey, declaring vacation spots among the targets in their drive to win freedom for their imprisoned leader. The Associated Press reported from Ankara.]

[Within hours of the threat, a fire-bomb attack hit a fashionable residential district of Ankara where many foreigners live and several embassies are situated, wounding a passer-by.]

[Suspicion fell on the Kurdistan Workers Party, which had threatened to escalate attacks since its leader, Abdullah Ocalan, was captured in Kenya on

Feb. 15 and brought back to Turkey.]

[Monday's fire-bombing was the latest in a series of attacks in the country. In the deadliest of attacks, 13 people were killed in an arson attack on a department store in Istanbul on Saturday.]

Ocalan is being held at an island prison 35 miles southwest of the capital. He is reportedly cooperating with his interrogators, and according to leaked accounts of his purported testimony, has expressed repentance for his group's violent acts.]

As Ocalan's admirers seek to decide how to proceed without him, however, at least some have apparently decided to commit acts of urban terror. Such acts have

See TURKEY, Page 5

Cuba Sends 4 To Prison in Political Trial

The Associated Press

HAVANA — Risking international criticism, the government Monday sentenced one of Cuba's best-known dissidents to five years in prison and set lesser terms for his three co-defendants.

The conviction and sentence for Vladimir Roca, a former military pilot and the son of the late Cuban Communist Party leader Blas Roca, was announced during the midday news.

Mr. Roca's wife, Magaly de Amas, said: "It is wrong, it is unjust." adding: "We are going to appeal immediately."

A five-member tribunal tried Mr. Roca and three others behind closed doors the first week of March.

The court set sentences of four years each for the lawyer Rene Gomez Manzano and the engineer Felix Bome and three and half years for the economist Marta Beatriz Roque.

The four were arrested July 1997 for criticizing a Communist Party document.

They were also accused of encouraging Cubans not to vote in that year's elections, holding two news conferences with foreign media, exhorting foreign businessmen not to invest in Cuba and asking Cuban exiles to encourage their kin on the island to undertake acts of civil disobedience.

Books Page 7.
Crossword Page 3.
The IHT on-line www.ihtr.com

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Lebanon	700 Lb	Zimbabwe	Zim \$40.00



Data Overload / World's Libraries Face a Dilemma

Is the Information Age Making Us Any Wiser?

By Joel Achenbach
Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON — Tom Mann is the restless gentleman at the Library of Congress reference desk who, given a question, will whirl up a spiral staircase and pop back down with the perfect book, his fingers flying to the right page.

These days, Mr. Mann is that oxymoron, a raging librarian. He's angry about a proposal to shelve books at the library not by subject matter but by size. Such a system, Mr. Mann says, would eliminate browsing — "discovery by serendipity," as he calls it.

But what's going on here is much bigger than a shelving dispute. Tom Mann's protest is but a puff of wind in a gathering storm — the information hurricane.

Institutions and individuals alike are coping with a deluge of books, journals, tapes, legal records, documents, electronic mail and torrents of raw data. All this material is supposed to be stored and preserved. Compounding the problem is the fact that information disintegrates. Books turn brittle. Tapes fall apart. Films degrade into gunpowder.

The latest crisis is digital preservation. The binary code surging through wires all over the world is in danger of turning to gibberish as computer programs become obsolete.

At the National Archives, staff are trying to preserve electronic data from the Reagan and Bush administrations. But the computer system used at the White House during the 1980s and early 1990s is already so out of date that the vendor no longer will repair it.

The problem is a bit like the Y2K computer bug, a flaw built into the structure of the computer universe. From a preservation standpoint, an electronic document may as well have been scrawled with a wet finger on a paper napkin.

The Information Age, the experts warn, could become a blank spot in human history.

Every day, James Billington, the librarian of Congress, worries about the nuts-and-bolts issues such as shelving and digital preservation, but he also worries about broader philosophical matters, such as: Are we truly wiser with all this information?

In 1472 the library at Queens' College in Cambridge, England, had 199 books. At the height of the Renaissance there were people who could claim plausibly to have read every important book ever written.

Today, no one can read everything. The world of knowledge is a vast ocean; the best you can do is occasionally go for a swim.

More than 50,000 books are published every year in America alone. The number of journals published globally is estimated at 400,000. Soon every home will have access to hundreds of television channels. The World Wide Web now has millions of sites.

"It's significant that we call it the Information Age," Mr. Billington said. "We don't talk about the Knowledge Age."

Mr. Billington subscribes to a formula: Raw data can be turned into information, which then, through much added effort and value, can rise to the level of knowledge, which is the foundation for wisdom.

But he says that in this era of data overload, we may be going in the wrong direction. "Our society is basically motion without memory," Mr. Billington said. "Which, of course, is one of the clinical definitions of insanity."

Almost from its origin, the Library of Congress had the ambitious goal of a universal collection. When British forces burned the Capitol in the War of 1812, they destroyed most of the library's books.



James Billington, the librarian of Congress, with a copy of the rare Russian book 'The Apocalypse of St. John.' Society today is 'motion without memory,' he says.

Thomas Jefferson offered to sell Congress his own collection of books, many in French, Spanish, German, Latin and Greek.

Cyrus King, a Federalist Party lawmaker, objected: "The Bill would put \$23,900 into Mr. Jefferson's pocket for about 6,000 books — good, bad and indifferent; old, new and worthless, in languages which many cannot read, and most ought not to."

Mr. Jefferson countered that there was "no subject to which a Member of Congress may not have occasion to refer." Congress bought. The Library of Congress soon became jammed, with books overflowing the shelves.

THE JEFFERSON Building in 1897 provided a new, spacious home, but that, too, filled up. Two courtyards were converted to book stacks. They filled up. The opening in 1939 of the Adams Building relieved the problem, but then it filled up. The Madison Building, larger than any building in the area except the Pentagon, was added in 1980. It filled up. A new warehouse, 40 miles (64 kilometers) from Washington, opened last year.

The library has 113 million items, and every morning 20,000 more pour into the loading dock. The stacks are so full that in some areas the floor is used as an auxiliary shelf.

Mr. Billington struggles with the problems of running the world's largest book stock.

His desk is cluttered with the multiple media of the modern workplace: newspapers, videos, memos, books, magazines. He can talk on the phone, write on a computer or bang out a letter on the electric typewriter he refuses to relinquish. He is not fond of electronic mail and doesn't surf the Internet.

Like Tom Mann, Mr. Billington is a book person in an electronic age. But although Mr. Mann and many other librarians are horrified by the idea of shelving by size, Mr. Billington does not seem

bothered by the proposal. He feels the library must evolve.

Mr. Billington has a vision of a library without walls, an "active catalyst for civilization," as he once put it, rather than a "passive mausoleum" for old books.

The entry point is the Internet. The library has been putting many of its priceless prints, maps and documents on a searchable World Wide Web site. Everyone in the knowledge business is racing to keep up with changing research habits.

The dream of many librarians is that someday the collective knowledge of civilization will be available on the Web. Right now it isn't. It takes time and costs money to scan a book into a digital format, and no one can afford to do that with the millions of books at the Library of Congress.

A venture called Project Gutenberg aims to put 10,000 texts on-line by 2001. Tom Mann, for one, is dismissive of the effort. The e-texts, he says, will never catch up — in fact, they're falling further and further behind: the library gains 10,000 new books every two weeks.

Mr. Billington says the library must play a role in saving the Internet from turning into a dumb-bunny domain, a mere offshoot of what he calls the "audiovisual culture."

The Internet shortens attention spans, he says. It destroys the sentence, the foundation of the English language, with its diction-mangling chat rooms. And the Internet is heavily skewed toward recent information, with little trace of older material. A person might surf the Web for hours and not encounter anything written before 1995.

"It's inherently destructive of memory," Mr. Billington said.

"You think you're getting lots more information, until you've found out you've made a bargain with the devil. You've slowly mutated and have become an extension of the machine."

Secrecy on El Al Crash Angers the Netherlands

By Charles Trueheart
Washington Post Service

THE HAGUE — Six and a half years after an Israeli cargo jet plowed into a low-income housing complex near Amsterdam, killing 43 people and injuring dozens, the fallout from the crash is spreading to the Dutch government and its historically close ties to Israel.

Incomplete or unsatisfactory answers from Israel about what the El Al freighter was carrying and a pattern of Dutch back-passing and paper-shuffling led to a parliamentary inquiry. It ended last week with an uncharacteristically sharp burst of official Dutch anger at Israel.

Prime Minister Wim Kok, who took office two years after the crash, and his predecessor, Ruud Lubbers, expressed their ire at what the Dutch say has been persistent stonewalling by El Al and the Israeli government as authorities sought information about the contents of the Boeing 747-200 as it set out from Amsterdam's Schiphol international airport on the second leg of its New York-to-Tel Aviv flight.

The cause of the crash was established fairly quickly: fatigue in a "fuse pin" on the engine mount. But what began as an accident turned into something else — a many-fingered mystery about what might have burned up in the crash and contributed to more than a thousand medical complaints from residents in a neighborhood eight miles (12 kilometers) east of the airport.

Documentation turned over last year to the parliamentary inquiry confirmed that the jet had been carrying not just electronics, flowers and perfume, as originally claimed, but also DMMP, part of a combination of elements used to make sarin nerve gas. It was found for a biological research institute in Israel. El Al maintains the DMMP was to be used for testing gas masks.

The commission also discovered that the plane contained 600 pounds (270 kilograms) of depleted uranium, used for ballast in the tail section of the older aircraft.

Adding to the Dutch concern, it was not until last month that Israeli officials turned over key evidence to the inquiry that they had long maintained they could not find, including detailed bills for a 20-ton portion of the jet's 114-ton cargo that had long been unaccounted for.

"I am not content, to put it mildly, that it did not appear to be possible in the normal exchange between nations to get essential information on the table," Mr. Kok said in testimony last week to the parliamentary commission. "How does this tally with the special relationship which the Netherlands is supposed to have with Israel?"

Mr. Lubbers, who is now retired from politics, was able to speak more plainly. "I am angry with the Israeli authorities," he said. "I am extremely disappointed. I say that as a friend of Israel. It is inconceivable that they didn't tell us."

The Dutch laments about Israeli secrecy extend even to the alarming

minutes before the plane went down on Oct. 4, 1992. "The crew only gave sparse information concerning their problems and intentions," the official crash report complained. Six minutes after takeoff, the pilot radioed his first Mayday. The jet had lost one of its four engines — then it lost another. Eight minutes later, as it sought to return to Schiphol, it plowed into a pair of 11-story apartment buildings.

Pleas of ignorance and charges of withheld facts have been a familiar theme as the investigation dragged on. The two prime ministers and dozens of other ministers and senior officials say they were never told of troubling questions being raised about the way the investigation was being pursued. As many as eight Dutch ministries were involved without apparent coordination.

The scandal has tested the Dutch public's faith in its clean and efficient consensus-style politics, and there could be casualties to the coalition government that has presided over unprecedented economic growth and stability in this country of 17 million since 1994.

Elis Borst and Annemarie Jorritsma, the two deputy prime ministers, had key roles in other cabinet posts at the time of the crash or during the inquiries. Mr. Kok was finance minister at the time. The inquiry's findings, due at the end of the month, could assign responsibility for the government's mishandling of the investigation to Ms. Borst and Mrs. Jorritsma and force them to resign.

Analysts here say that would knock away two pillars of Mr. Kok's coalition and his government, already under other political pressures, could fall as a result.

The chill in Dutch relations with Israel over this scandal is at odds with a post-war tradition of close cooperation. The ties were symbolized by El Al's privileged position at Schiphol, one of Europe's busiest airports. "Everyone knew El Al was something special, but that was not documented anywhere," Mr. Lubbers told the inquiry.

Since the airport served as a refueling stop in the airlift of U.S. weapons to Israel during the 1973 Arab-Israeli war, it has become El Al's European hub. A thousand El Al cargo flights stop at the airport every year, carrying 90,000 tons of freight, as do 300 passenger flights. Either under its own name or that of a Dutch ground services company, El Al employs 180 people, including security detachments, at Schiphol's offices and hangars.

News reports have left an impression of an Israeli fiefdom enjoying immunity from normal procedures, and of close collusion between Dutch authorities and El Al's special guests. The cockpit voice recorder was never found, although the flight data recorder was, and a Dutch investigation concluded it had probably been stolen from the crash site. Investigative journalists led by the Dutch daily NRC Handelsblad believe, but have been unable to prove, that Israeli security personnel, who were at the site within minutes of the crash, might have taken the voice recorder.

They also have wondered in print about conversations the jumbo jet's pilots might have been having with El Al superiors during gaps in the transcripts of the cockpit conversations just before impact. And they have sought to establish why, the day after the crash, El Al rushed special jets to Schiphol and what they might have airlifted out.

Although more than a thousand people in the Bijlmer neighborhood attribute a health problem to the crash, the hospital has concluded that a link to the jet's cargo cannot be proved.

DMMP is not considered harmful unless ingested, according to the U.S. Federal Aviation Administration. The depleted uranium emits a low-level alpha radiation and is similarly not hazardous unless ingested, but can be toxic if burned at high temperatures. Although more than half of the uranium was recovered, it is still not known what happened with the rest.

El Al's insurer has settled with the victims' families as a class-action suit on behalf of the heavily immigrant neighbors continues. Mr. Kok acknowledged that "those involved in the Bijlmer disaster have been kept in the dark for too long. That is incomprehensible given their health complaints."

Taunting Lyrics of Late Singer Are Still Ruffling Nigeria's Rulers

By James Rupert
Washington Post Service

LAGOS — At the Fela Music Library, a tin-roofed folk built into the end of a narrow alley, it seemed that you could hear all Nigeria at once.

In a nearby street, drivers and vendors battled for rights to potholed asphalt, honking and hawking. As usual, the electricity went out, so in the alley a little generator roared like a lawn mower.

Against the clamor of a city struggling through another day, two voices rose. From a flickering TV, Nigeria's deputy leader, an admiral, lectured on the need for discipline as the military prepared to hand power back to civilian rule in May. And from a tape player, Fela Anikulapo-Kuti waited that the military officers were thieves who robbed the nation and only pretended to give up power.

During nearly 30 years of military rule, Nigeria has spawned articulate dissenters. Chinua Achebe and Wole Soyinka are among the best-known Af-

rican writers. But they now live in the United States and their books are more easily found, and afforded, in the West than here. In the streets of Nigeria's teeming cities, the voice more heard is that of Fela, the singer and saxophonist who melded African musical traditions, jazz and funk into Afrobeat, a cry of black African underclass protest.

In the 1970s and '80s, Fela condemned Nigeria's rulers for corruption and brutality, declaring in the title and lyrics of one record that Nigeria's VIPs were "Vagabonds In Power."

An outlandish showman on stage, where he often performed wearing only bikini underwear, Fela provoked his foes with a counterculture lifestyle. He founded a commune in Lagos that he declared an independent republic, naming it Kalakuta, after a jail cell where he had once been held. He smoked marijuana, slept around and once married 27 of his dancers in a single ceremony.

Fela died of complications from AIDS 19 months ago, but the incoming

president, Olusegun Obasanjo, still must contend with Fela's voice. A former military ruler, Mr. Obasanjo won last month's election to head a government that will be dominated by the established elite: wealthy, retired officers and their civilian political and business partners. Troops beat Fela and others and threw Fela's 77-year-old mother out of an upper window, causing her injuries from which she ultimately died.

Fela, an ethnic Yoruba and son of one of Nigeria's most politically prominent families, studied music in London, founded a band and, in 1969, toured the United States.

Fela was electrified by the black nationalist and pan-African ideas of African Americans. He returned to Nigeria saluting surprised audiences with the clenched fist of black power and began singing his political critique.

Fela's movement is now largely in the hands of his son, Femi Kuti, a band leader. Mr. Kuti heads the Movement Against Second Slavery, which holds free concerts at universities to spread

because it was under him that the military clashed most spectacularly with Fela. After years of harassing or arresting Fela on minor charges, the military in 1977 sent hundreds of troops to assault and burn Fela's commune. Troops beat Fela and others and threw Fela's 77-year-old mother out of an upper window, causing her injuries from which she ultimately died.

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Fela's call for an end to Africa's rule by oligarchies that were bequeathed their power by the European colonial rulers.

Mr. Kuti, who avoids confrontation with the authorities, says his music is "very commercial," in an effort to broaden its audience. But the message is little changed. In a recently released song, he laments: "But with these kind of leaders, Africans no get hope. Africans will suffer till the suffer reach our bone."

Election Outcome Contested

The defeated candidate in Nigeria's Feb. 27 presidential election, Olusegun Obasanjo, filed a legal challenge Monday to the overwhelming victory of General Abacha, Reuters reported from Abuja.

The challenge was based on suspicions of ballot fraud and bribery, and it also said that General Obasanjo was unfit for office because he had once been convicted of treason.

Few Nigerians expect Mr. Obasanjo's appeal to prevent Mr. Obasanjo from taking office on May 29.

TRAVEL UPDATE

Snow Snarls New England Traffic

HARTFORD, Connecticut (Reuters) — The Ides of March brought damp, heavy snow to the northeastern United States on Monday, closing hundreds of schools and knocking out power in parts of the region.

The storm was expected to leave accumulations of 4 to 12 inches in parts of Connecticut, Massachusetts and Rhode Island. The storm also hit the mid-Atlantic region, leaving streets a slushy mess in Washington and New York and shutting schools in parts of Virginia and Maryland. At Boston's Logan International Airport, up to 150 flights were canceled.

3 U.S. Carriers Join in Fare Increase

NEW YORK (NYT) — Northwest Airlines, US Airways and TWA raised their ticket prices over the weekend, matching fare increases last week by other major U.S. carriers. It was the industry's second price increase this year.

The airlines raised the fares for the last-minute unrestricted tickets favored by business travelers by 1 percent and for advance-purchase tickets by 3 percent. The previous wave of increases, which began in late January, raised business fares by 2 percent and leisure fares by 4 percent. Before that, there had not been a general fare increase in more than a year.

Israeli Public Strike Disrupts Ports

JERUSALEM (AP) — About 60,000 workers in Israel's public sector began a work slowdown Monday after wage talks with the government broke down, disrupting airports and sea ports. Customs inspectors sat in their offices while a computer scanned suitcases for long lines of airport passengers. Work at government offices and public hospitals also was disrupted, and cargo at sea ports was held up.

Iberia pilots on Monday called a strike for Easter week, one of Spain's busiest travel periods, to pressure management to sign a new contract and honor a deal on hiring. (AP)

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WEATHER

Forecast for Wednesday through Friday, as provided by AccuWeather.



Europe
Turning much milder over the weekend with plenty of sun and quite warm in London Wednesday. Rainy and windy on Thursday. Some snow in the north on Friday. Stormy in the south on Friday. Heavy rain and gusty winds on Saturday. Heavy rain and gusty winds on Sunday. Heavy rain and gusty winds on Monday. Heavy rain and gusty winds on Tuesday. Heavy rain and gusty winds on Wednesday. Heavy rain and gusty winds on Thursday. Heavy rain and gusty winds on Friday. Heavy rain and gusty winds on Saturday. Heavy rain and gusty winds on Sunday. Heavy rain and gusty winds on Monday. Heavy rain and gusty winds on Tuesday. Heavy rain and gusty winds on Wednesday. Heavy rain and gusty winds on Thursday. Heavy rain and gusty winds on Friday. Heavy rain and gusty winds on Saturday. Heavy rain and gusty winds on Sunday. Heavy rain and gusty winds on Monday. Heavy rain and gusty winds on Tuesday. Heavy rain and gusty winds on Wednesday. Heavy rain and gusty winds on Thursday. 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THE AMERICAS

Doubts Slow a Plan to Destroy 'Last' Smallpox Viruses

By David Brown
Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON — A plan to destroy the world's last known samples of the smallpox virus is being threatened by a growing suspicion that secret supplies of the virus probably exist, increasing the chances it could fall into the hands of a rogue nation or terrorist group.

If that is the case, some scientists say, stocks of the deadly virus should be kept so they can be used to help develop antiviral drugs and a better vaccine against the disease, which was eradicated from the world in 1978.

That view, however, is not universal. Some people say destruction of the known viral stocks, planned for this year, would actually discourage the use of any pirated ones.

An expert panel convened by the National Academy of Sciences Institute of Medicine was to offer its opinion Monday on future scientific needs for the virus, which officially exists in only two places — the federal Centers for Disease Control in Atlanta and a laboratory run by the Russian government in Siberia.

The report was requested by the Department of Defense and the Department of Health

and Human Services and is expected to carry substantial weight in a debate within President Bill Clinton's administration on whether to support the World Health Organization's recommendation to incinerate the remaining supply of the smallpox virus June 30.

That plan is to be reviewed in May when representatives of the 190 members of the WHO meet in Geneva.

The date for the destruction of the virus was set by consensus at a similar meeting in 1996. After that, scientists in the United States and Russia were to clone pieces of the virus's genes into harmless samples suitable for research.

Although some researchers argued for keeping the virus indefinitely, the consensus was that doing so would pose risks that far outweighed any scientific insights that might be gained.

Events of the past few years, however, have challenged that view.

"One would have to be ridiculously optimistic to conclude there are now only two locations in the world where smallpox is stored," Amy Smithson, an expert on biological and chemical weapons proliferation at the Henry L. Stimson Center in Wash-

ington, said last week. "And I do mean ridiculously optimistic."

This view is shared, somewhat less emphatically, by advocates of virus destruction, who until recently doubted there were secret stores of smallpox.

"I think there's more in Russia than in the one center," said Donald Henderson, the American physician who led the global smallpox-eradication effort from 1966 to 1977.

Recent revelations that the Soviet Union made industrial quantities of smallpox for years after it signed a 1972 treaty prohibiting such work has undercut Russian credibility.

"I think the likelihood that the Russians destroyed everything except what they had in the WHO laboratory is very small," said Frank Fenner, an Australian physician, now 84, who headed the global commission that "certified" the world as smallpox-free in 1980.

"If we are serious about bio-defense, the stocks are necessary for developing an antiviral drug, and possibly necessary for developing a vaccine more suitable for the general population than the current one," said Alan Zelicoff, a scientist at Sandia National

Laboratories in New Mexico and a consultant to the Defense Department.

Proponents of destruction argue that the essential scientific work can be done without live samples of the virus and that its destruction would make a moral statement about its use that even terrorists could not ignore.

If smallpox were to reappear, Mr. Fenner said, "it couldn't be the result of untoward escape from a laboratory." He added: "It would have to be from deliberate use. That could then be condemned as a horrendous crime against humanity — reintroducing a disease that the world with great effort had freed itself from."

Last year, the WHO polled its members to learn whether there was still agreement on destroying the known stocks of virus.

About 70 nations responded. The United States, Britain, France and Italy said they were undecided. Russia said the virus should be retained. All the rest favored destruction.

Routine vaccination for smallpox ended decades ago. Except for some soldiers and laboratory workers, nobody has been vaccinated anywhere since 1983. As one result, virtually the entire population of the world now would be susceptible to the disease.

POLITICAL NOTES

Chafee Declines to Run Again

PROVIDENCE, Rhode Island — Senator John Chafee, 76, an influential moderate Republican first elected in 1976, announced Monday that he would retire next year, declining to seek a fifth term. He becomes the second Republican senator to announce that he will not seek re-election in 2000.

"It's time to try something else," Mr. Chafee said at a news conference at the Rhode Island State House, where he was flanked by family members. His voice broke when he said: "I want to come home."

A scion of one of Rhode Island's most powerful families, Mr. Chafee is perhaps the most popular Republican in state history. He is the senior member in a dwindling group of Republican moderates, working to forge compromises in divisive areas such as health care and child care. And as chairman of the Environment and Public Works Committee, he is a key voice for environmental protection.

The Republican Party could end up losing Mr. Chafee's seat in next year's election. Rhode Island is predominantly Democrat, and at the moment the state party does not have a strong candidate for the job. (AP)

Gephardt Endorses Gore

WASHINGTON — Vice President Al Gore, kicking off the first official political trip of his 2000 campaign, secured the endorsement Monday of Richard Gephardt, the House minority leader.

A spokeswoman for Mr. Gephardt, Laura Nichols, said the Missouri congressman assured Mr. Gore in mid-February of his support.

Mr. Gephardt and his staff were with the vice president on board Air Force Two on Monday morning en route to New Hampshire and Iowa, where they hope to energize supporters. The two also will appear in St. Louis, Mr. Gephardt's hometown.

While at least 10 Republicans have shown signs of running to become their party's standard-bearer, Mr. Gore's status as the Democratic front-runner so far has scared off all but one major challenger, former Senator Bill Bradley of New Jersey. (AP, Reuters)

McCain Attacks Foreign Policy

WASHINGTON — Senator John McCain said Monday that the Clinton administration's inability to develop a foreign policy worthy of the world's only superpower has endangered national security and left the United States more vulnerable to aggression from China.

In the first major foreign policy speech of his emerging campaign for the White House, Mr. McCain, Republican of Arizona, also lambasted the administration for a lack of long-term strategy in dealing with North Korea, Iraq and the recurring violence in the former Yugoslavia.

President Bill Clinton's tendency has been to "put off" resolution of the most difficult problems, often substituting photo-op diplomacy for meaningful action," said Mr. McCain, a member of the Senate Armed Services Committee and a decorated Vietnam War veteran.

"Often evident in administration policies is a mystifying uncertainty about how to act in a world where we are the only superpower," Mr. McCain said in a speech prepared for delivery at Kansas State University in Manhattan, Kansas. And in engaging China, he contended, the administration has "left the United States more vulnerable to a ballistic missile attack." (AP)

U.S. Troops Should Quit Haiti, Commander Says

By Douglas Farah
Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON — The commander of U.S. troops in Latin America has recommended that the United States end its five-year military presence in Haiti, arguing that American forces have not been able to create stability in the volatile nation and are now at risk.

General Charles Wilhelm, commander of the U.S. Southern Command, made the comments in testimony to a closed session of the defense subcommittee of the House Appropriations Committee on Feb. 25.

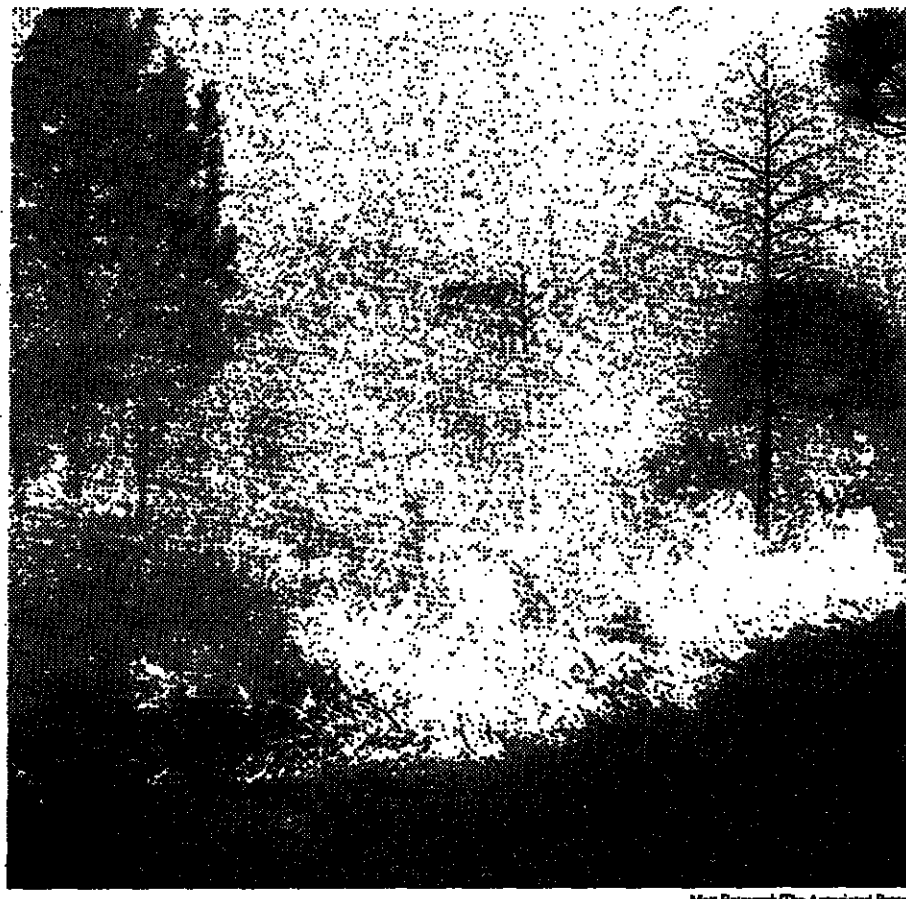
General Wilhelm's bleak assessment of the political and security situation in Haiti and his advice that the United States "terminate" its presence there and rely instead on periodic visits by U.S. troops came as the Clinton administration's Haiti policy was coming under increasing fire in Congress as well.

In that regard, his comments marked a significant challenge to a policy that administration officials have cited as a model for the use of U.S. military forces to help resolve instability and ethnic conflict in the post-Cold War world.

In September 1994, President Bill Clinton's administration deployed 20,000 troops to Haiti to restore the democratically elected government of Jean-Bertrand Aristide. The U.S. troops participated in peacekeeping efforts and helped oversee the disbanding of security forces blamed for political killings, torture and illegal detentions.

Although the Clinton administration has often hailed the Haiti mission as a success, political bickering in Port-au-Prince, the capital, has paralyzed the government of Mr. Aristide's successor, Rene Preval. Political assassinations in recent weeks have highlighted the impoverished nation's inability to overcome its habitual polarization and fragmentation.

While most of the troops withdrew after a year, about 500 American soldiers — mostly Army reservists rotating through on short-term assignments — remain in Haiti.



HAZE OVER THE SUNSHINE STATE — Brush fire threatening a house in Golden Gate, Florida. Two quick-moving fires endangered 200 buildings, forcing residents out and shut a section of Interstate 75 across the Everglades known as "Alligator Alley" before rain and 600 firefighters doused them.

Away From Politics

- About 1,000 people marched in a "vigil of hope" in Modesto, California, to lend comfort to two families searching for their relatives who disappeared one month ago while visiting Yosemite National Park. Among those who attended the march Sunday were the families of Carole Sund, her 15-year-old daughter, Julie, and a 16-year-old Argentine exchange student, Silvina Pelosso. (AP)
- Incidents of anti-homosexual harassment have increased in each of the armed services, a legal group that represents gay men and lesbians says in a report five years after the Clinton administration adopted its "don't ask, don't tell" policy for homosexuals in the military. The Servicemembers Legal Defense Network says that many gay men and lesbians have been forced to abandon military service. (NYT)
- Ford Motor Co. will pay a civil fine of \$425,000 in a settlement with the federal government for failing to recall vehicles promptly and withholding information during a safety agency's investigations into fires in Ford cars and light trucks. Federal officials said Ford was too slow in recalling and fixing 8.6 million vehicles in 1996. (AP)

AMERICAN TOPICS

Not Just Blowing Smoke, Farmers Want Legal Hemp

In colonial America, the hemp plant was used to make sails, rope, paper and cloth. Drafts of the Declaration of Independence were written on hemp-fiber paper. Thomas Jefferson cultivated hemp.

But the anti-marijuana backlash of the 1930s, fueled in part by movies like "Reefer Madness," led to bans on the weedy plant, a nonpsychoactive relative of marijuana. Today, reports U.S. News & World Report, U.S. farmers are lobbying for an end to the ban.

The pro-hemp push gained steam last summer and fall when farmers in North Dakota, whose wheat and barley crops had been hit by flood and disease, reported paltry profits of \$25 an acre — even as their cross-border counterparts were earning \$225 an acre in Canada's first legal hemp harvest since the 1930s.

Industrial hemp contains negligible amounts of the mind-altering chemical THC, and it is versatile and environmentally friendly, say its promoters.

Virginia has endorsed controlled

cultivation; similar action is pending in 11 other states.

To the fears that legalized hemp cultivation would make it easier to hide marijuana plants, hemp defenders say the opposite is true: Cross-pollination would lower marijuana's potency. The government, they add, could save millions of dollars a year now spent needlessly eradicating wild hemp.

Short Takes

Despite opposition from Louisville officials, the Kentucky Derby Festival is proceeding with plans for a fireworks and air show April 17 that will include a re-enactment of the bombing of Pearl Harbor by replicas of Japanese aircraft.

All 12 city aldermen criticized the planned simulation in a letter to the festival president. Officials of the world-famous horse race, however, said the re-enactment was intended not to glorify war "but to honor those who have sacrificed so much for freedom."

Dope on Dogs: There are 58 million dogs in the United States, according to Governing magazine.

Twenty-eight million dog owners say they buy Christmas gifts for their dogs each year. Nearly 10 million celebrate their dogs' birthdays; 17 percent say they keep a picture of their pet in their purse or wallet. More than 6 million say that they are as attached to their

dogs as they are to their children.

In today's in-your-face world, the people of rural western Maryland are apparently just too nice.

Unitel Corp., which helps businesses sell things over the telephone, is moving about 100 jobs from Frostburg, Maryland, to Florida in hopes of finding more aggressive salespeople.

"The culture and the climate in western Maryland is one of helping your neighbor and being empathetic," said a Unitel vice president, Ken Carmichael.

This, Mr. Carmichael implied, is not something telemarketers want.

Frostburg has lost thousands of manufacturing and coal mining jobs over the years, but Mayor John Bambacus is taking the loss of Unitel in stride.

"We would rather be nice than aggressive," the mayor said. "Frostburg is not the Bronx."

Some grade-school students just complain about the lunchroom food. Ryan Rose of Alcoa, Tennessee, got a lawyer. "Me and my friends got mad," said Ryan, 10, so he contacted Monte Walton, a Knoxville lawyer, who is charging Ryan \$1, a bit of a discount over his usual fees.

The attorney drew up a petition, hinting that he would seek an amicable solution: It might involve adding hamburgers to the menu.

Brian Knowlton

CROSSWORD

- ACROSS**
- 1 Golf parl
 - 3 South African author Alan
 - 10 Impoverished
 - 14 Latvia's capital
 - 15 TV's Morgenstern
 - 16 Wily Bombeck
 - 17 Bantander's supply, squashed flat?
 - 18 Jack-o'-lantern feature
 - 20 Plunder
 - 21 Working with a dagger
 - 23 Carpe

- DOWN**
- 1 Remove the list from
 - 2 Costa
 - 3 Ripening factor
 - 4 Horse Bowl site
 - 5 Victorian type
 - 6 "So, it's YOU!"
 - 7 Suit material, perhaps
 - 8 River to the Baltic
 - 9 Discovery grp.
 - 10 Stereotypical pirate feature
 - 11 Utah's Hatch
 - 12 "Mother" (old standard)
 - 13 Outlander's seat
 - 14 Pound sterling, informally

- ACROSS**
- 24 Vindictive anger
 - 26 Gong hiller
 - 28 Intro to physics?
 - 29 "Shakespeare's" units
 - 30 Junet
 - 31 Actress Gail
 - 32 "Hill Mary" counter
 - 33 Tampa Bay players, in headlines
 - 34 Taj Mahal home
 - 35 "Right on!"
 - 36 Bog stuff
 - 37 Capital on a fford
 - 38 Pusher's partner
 - 39 Crossword solvers' smudges
 - 40 Elasticized garment
 - 41 Top Four matchup
 - 42 Turns on an axis
 - 43 Delicious
 - 44 Neptune's realm
 - 45 Empty spaces
 - 46 Yemen's capital
 - 47 P.D.C., on "ER"
 - 48 Six-foot avians
 - 49 "Vamoose!"
 - 50 Sociable Maxwell
 - 51 Neanderthal, for one
 - 52 Assayer's specimen

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Solution to Puzzle of March 15

FIDEL AMAS BARB
ANODE AOKI OBIE
THREEMILE ISLAND
CAIN TROY ARBOR
AIE TROY ARBOR
TESTER ASTOUND
RAYOVAC LES
FOURINGHEELS
FLO NURSERY
LAPDOGS DREAMY
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ASIA/PACIFIC

Beijing Confused as U.S. Relations Go Sour and Key Assumptions Fail

By John Pomfret
Washington Post Service

BEIJING — In mid-December, within the garish confines of the Media Hotel in Beijing, scores of Chinese experts and officials involved in relations with the United States gathered to celebrate 20 years of formalized relations between China's Communist government and Washington.

The mood was self-congratulatory, recalled one participant, as the dignitaries toasted themselves on the successful completion of two summit meetings with President Bill Clinton, what many called a new understanding on Taiwan and the sense that U.S.-China ties had entered a "new era."

Three months later, souring ties between the world's most populous country and the sole superpower have silenced China's buoyant mood. American accusations that Chinese spies pilfered U.S. nuclear-weapon designs in the late 1980s, a recent 99-0 Senate vote against China's human rights record, talk in Washington about

providing Taiwan access to U.S. missile-defense technology and increasingly cozy military ties between the United States and Japan have left Chinese officials saying they were blindsided by a new chill in Beijing's relations with Washington.

"We really didn't expect this was going to happen," said a senior Chinese government adviser who has watched the recent setbacks with alarm. "Many of us don't know what to do."

The sudden decline of U.S.-China relations is not the only unsettling development that has taken China's leadership by surprise. Challenges to some of China's core assumptions about its security have arisen in the past year, involving not only the United States but also North Korea and the newly nuclear-armed nations of India and Pakistan.

Several other elements figure in what Beijing views as a new and confusing international environment:

• Continued U.S. economic growth has ob-

literated a key Chinese assumption that the United States is in decline. This, coupled with China's faltering economy, has challenged a basic Beijing tenet: Ultimately, the Chinese economy will surpass that of the United States, and Beijing will replace Washington as Asia's main power broker.

Indeed, the U.S. economy grew 6.1 percent in the last quarter of 1998, arguably faster than China's. U.S. gross domestic product stood at \$8.5 trillion in 1998. China's was about \$1 trillion.

• China signed the 1996 Nuclear Test Ban Treaty with the assumption that its strategic circumstances would remain relatively stable and improve over time.

Nuclear weapons tests by India and Pakistan last spring, however, ended China's reign as the lone nuclear power in Asia. They also forced strategists in the Chinese army and government to refocus attention on China's southwestern flank — an unwelcome diversion from Beijing's main task, which is reuniting with Taiwan.

China also assumed that the deep cuts in the

Russian and American nuclear arsenals, as envisioned in the START-2 strategic arms limitation accord, would reduce its need to build up its nuclear forces. But the treaty's recent collapse "trashed all that," said Bates Gill, a China security expert at the Brookings Institution.

• The Aug. 31 firing of a North Korean rocket over Japan galvanized opinion there and in the United States about the necessity of closer military ties — including development of a regional missile defense system, known as theater missile defense. The three-stage rocket also shot down the Chinese assumption that it would not have to choose between helping to bolster North Korea as a friendly buffer state or alienating South Korea, Japan and the United States.

Indeed, China has very hard choices to face in its relations with Pyongyang. The two countries are celebrating 50 years of close ties, and Chinese officials say they expect a senior North Korean official will visit China this year.

It is too early to tell whether these reversals of China's assumptions and its rockier ties with the

United States will cause Beijing to adopt a more aggressive stance in Asia. Nonetheless, when China has felt cornered it has rarely played a tentative hand, Western officials say, and in recent weeks it has been talking and acting tough. It has criticized the United States and Japan for considering development of a missile-defense system for both the United States and Asia. It has warned the United States to end its sales of high-tech weaponry, especially missile-defense systems, to Taiwan, saying it would be the "last straw" in U.S.-China relations.

China has also responded by seeking support from Russia, which shares China's concerns about both theater missile defense and military ties between Washington and Tokyo.

Some Western officials have predicted that if China continues to feel threatened, it will move further toward Moscow.

At root, the clash between Washington's and Beijing's viewpoints is a traditional one — between an entrenched power, the United States, and a resurgent one, China.

Fear Grows in East Timor
As Area Weighs Its FutureBy Michael Richardson
International Herald Tribune

SINGAPORE — When United Nations officials arrive in East Timor later this week to start preparations for a ballot on whether the disputed territory should have autonomy within Indonesia

BRIEFLY

Afghan Talks End

ASHGABAT, Turkmenistan — Afghanistan's warring factions prepared to fly home from peace talks Monday after forging a power-sharing agreement intended to end two decades of conflict.

Mohammed Younus Qanouni, head of the opposition delegation at the negotiations in Ashgabat, reiterated his optimism that the deal reached Sunday, though lacking in detail, was a major step toward ending the warfare that has devastated Afghanistan.

"The agreement represents a new era in the history of Afghanistan," he said.

Wakil Ahmed Muhtawakil, leader of the negotiating delegation from the Taliban, which rules 90 percent of Afghanistan, was slightly more cautious but also said the deal represented significant progress. "We are hopeful of a lasting peace, because we both share good intentions," he said. (Reuters)

Anwar Defense Rests

KUALA LUMPUR — Anwar Ibrahim, the ousted finance minister, said Monday that he expected to be sent to jail, as his defense closed its case in his corruption trial that has exposed divisions in Malaysia's ruling coalition.

Asked how long he thought he would spend in jail after the now four-month-old trial, Mr. Anwar said, "Two years, four years, it makes no difference."

Mr. Anwar's lawyers said they expected a verdict in early April after submissions by the defense and the prosecution next week. (Reuters)

19 Hurt on Korean Jet

SEOUL — A Korean Air Lines jet skidded off a runway in the southeastern city of Pohang on Monday, injuring 19. The MD-83 jet, carrying 156 passengers and crew from Seoul, cracked its fuselage after sliding into an embankment by the runway on its second attempt at landing in stormy weather, a spokesman said.

One of the injured had a fractured spine, he said.

"We have confirmed 10 passengers with spinal fractures and nine others with back sprains and other light injuries, but luckily there were no deaths," the spokesman said. (Reuters)

or independence, they will face a daunting task.

Tensions between pro-Indonesia and anti-Indonesia groups in East Timor are high.

Local Indonesian officials, including doctors and teachers, are fleeing the territory in droves.

Foreign-aid workers have expressed concern that supply and distribution networks will break down as Indonesian traders leave or prepare to do so.

As a result, a humanitarian crisis may be looming, with serious food shortages and the spread of disease.

Reflecting the concerns of Indonesia's neighbors, The Strait Times, the leading Singapore newspaper, said Monday that the most worrying of the difficulties facing the United Nations was "the possibility of renewed conflict, either forcing a delay in the proposed time schedule, or plunging the territory into civil war if Indonesia withdraws."

The fact that Indonesia and Portugal — the former ruler of East Timor — were able to agree to the holding of a "direct ballot" in the territory in talks in New York late last week brokered by the UN was seen as a significant breakthrough, especially since Jakarta has resolutely opposed a vote for fear of encouraging separatism in other regions.

Also encouraging was the almost simultaneous agreement between the East Timorese pro-independence guerrilla leader, Xanana Gusmao, who is under house arrest in Jakarta, and the head of the pro-Jakarta militia in the territory, Joao Da Silva Tavares, to work toward a peaceful settlement, including a ceasefire and disarmament.

The official Indonesian news agency Antara reported Monday that the two sides would hold further talks this week.

But there is no agreement between Indonesia, Portugal and the United Nations yet on the critical question of how the ballot will be conducted, although the Indonesian foreign minister, Ali Alatas, said Monday it would be in July.

He said that the vote would be conducted by UN teams assigned to visit all areas in East Timor. Those East Timorese who live abroad will also be able to vote, Mr. Alatas added.

One proposal, according to diplomats, is a "rolling ballot" involving UN teams in East Timor traveling to villages.

Whatever the procedure finally agreed, it is clear that Indonesian troops will play a key role — a prospect that worries many East Timorese.

In an interview on Australian television during the weekend, Secretary-General Kofi Annan said that at this stage he could not define whether the UN presence in East Timor would be military, police or just political. "But we will have a competent UN presence which we will build up as we move toward the day of the ballot," he said.

Mr. Annan said that the UN was not



Indonesian troops stopping a high school student who was found carrying knives and arrows on the outskirts of Ambon on Monday.

Military Warns Ambon Foes
To Turn Over Their Weapons

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

AMBON, Indonesia — The Indonesian military Monday stepped up a drive to disarm civilians in an effort to end the Muslim-Christian riots that have devastated this city.

Authorities said those resisting disarmament would be dealt with harshly. "If they do not want to, we will act firmly in the form of shooting on the spot — whether to paralyze or to kill," said Colonel Karel Robert Rahakulu, the head of the armed forces in Maluku Province. He said the military also would set up centers to take weapons surrendered voluntarily.

The military has put up roadblocks to search passers-by and vehicles for weapons. Two high-school students were arrested Monday for carrying knives. On Saturday, 37 people were found carrying weapons that included cutlasses, knives, spears, arrows and gasoline bombs.

Two helicopters swept the sky over Ambon on Monday, and soldiers were on standby. Large banners exhorting an end to the conflicts hung above downtown streets.

Public transportation was running again Monday; the discovery of a body late Saturday had stopped service. Pedicabs, absent since last month, also began to reappear. Several shops and businesses reopened, and classes resumed, although some students and teachers stayed away.

Sectarian clashes have rocked Ambon and other areas of Maluku Province since mid-January, leaving more than 200 people dead.

The Indonesian military took over riot control in Ambon late Wednesday. In Jakarta, Indonesia's armed forces chief, General Wiranto, said that the military was considering reactivating commands that had been scrapped in the 1980s, including the Maluku command. (AFP, Reuters)

planning to ask Indonesia to withdraw its soldiers from East Timor, although it would insist that they provide security ahead of the vote in a fair way.

"We will be vigilant to ensure that there is no tanky-panky and that the kind of security we are looking for is assured by the authorities," he said. "They have given us indications that they will work very closely with us on that."

He added that it was not realistic to expect that the Indonesian Army or any militia groups could be disbanded before the vote.

Jose Ramos-Horta, the Nobel Peace Prize laureate, said that the UN-supervised vote would be meaningless unless Indonesian forces withdrew and stopped arming the militia, and unless a UN force

was sent in to monitor the ballot to prevent intimidation.

He said that the UN should also carry out a census and voter registration. The territory is thought to have a population of about 800,000.

"We do not want the 200,000 Indonesian migrants in East Timor, the Indonesian civil servants and their families all voting on the future of East Timor," Mr. Ramos-Horta said. "The UN, not the Indonesian military, must guarantee that there is no coercion, no threats, no terror against the East Timorese."

In a free and fair vote, he added, "well over 90 percent" of the East Timorese would favor independence over autonomy.

Terror Against the Poorest
Indian Landowners Murder to Keep Caste DownBy Celia W. Dugger
New York Times Service

SHANKER BIGHA, India — This hamlet on the edge of a lush, palm-fringed field lay quiet on the moonlit night of Jan. 25. But as the villagers slept, more than 50 upper-caste men, members of an outlawed landowners' army, crept toward them through rustling spears of wheat.

The men fanned out in the dirt lanes, flinging open the doors of mud huts and shouting: "Kill them! Kill them!" Guns blazing, they massacred 22 people in just a few minutes, among them a 3-year-old boy and his baby sister who were crying as they huddled in their grandmother's arms.

This massacre of farm workers and their families — untouchables at the bottom of Hinduism's hierarchical social order — was numbingly similar to dozens of others committed over nearly three decades in the eastern state of Bihar.

The state is blessed by mineral wealth and fertile soil but cursed by the nation's highest rates of illiteracy and poverty. Almost nine out of 10 of the state's 100 million people live in the countryside, and more than half are very poor. The untouchables, who make up 14 percent of the population, are the poorest of the poor.

Bihar is now in the midst of an upheaval that has seen the middle castes depose the upper castes from the seats of political power. The untouchables, now called *dalits*, which means ground down in Hindi — have not yet gained an independent political voice, but they have begun grass-roots organizing.

And as they have banded together under various leftist banners to agitate, sometimes violently, for higher wages, a share of land and an end to the sexual exploitation of dalit women and other humiliations, both middle- and upper-caste landowners have struck back with terror tactics.

"In the American South after the Civil War, the lynchings of blacks were aimed at curbing their uppityness," said Ashutosh Varshney, a political scientist at Columbia University. "India never had slavery, but the dalits are as close to slavery as you can get. The massacres are aimed at checking their uppityness."

Successive governments, dominated by the upper and middle castes, have failed since the 1970s to stop the carnage or to address the harsh social and economic inequalities between the landed and the landless that persist in Bihar and in most of north India.

The bloodletting here in Shanker Bigha and another massacre of 12 untouchables on Feb. 11 in the village of Narayanpur set off a crisis that rocked the state's political establishment, humbled the national governing coalition and, for a time, riveted public attention on the violence that has raged

here like an intermittent fever.

The Bharatiya Janata Party, which espouses Hindu nationalism, draws most of its support in Bihar from the upper castes and leads the national coalition government. It maintained that the massacres justified its dismissal of the middle-caste state government, widely seen as corrupt and inefficient.

But even after central rule was imposed last month, the violence continued. Retaliating for the massacres of untouchables, a squad of leftist militants gunned down seven people on Feb. 14, apparently for no reason except their upper-caste status, human rights workers said.

Four more upper-caste men were slain on March 2.

Police say they arrested 47 members of the landowners' militia, the *Ranvir Sena*, for involvement in the two massacres, as well as dozens of members of leftist groups. Human rights groups say the police, dominated by upper castes, have in the past cracked down much harder on the leftists than on the landowners' armies.

On March 8, the central government, unable to get its takeover of Bihar ratified in Parliament, took the humiliating step of reinstating the dismissed state officials.

While political intrigues have swirled in New Delhi and the state capital of Patna, the mourning has continued in Shanker Bigha, an isolated hamlet of 300 to 400 dalits.

The village has no electricity, no phone, no school, no clinic, no car, no scooter and no health clinic. The villagers are illiterate, and their children go to work in the fields at a young age. When asked how old they are, the men and women, their faces weathered and prematurely aged, look blank. They do not know.

There seems to be no reason why Shanker Bigha was singled out for attack, other than its identity as a dalit settlement. The police and the villagers say there was no dispute between the landowners and the farm workers who labor in the fields for 50 cents a day, less than the widely ignored state minimum wage of almost \$1 a day.

None of the leftist groups organizing dalit farm workers in central Bihar had ever visited the hamlet before the massacre, though they have come since. Most of the villagers said they have never voted. The survivors of the massacre say they recognized some of the killers as familiar residents of Dhoi Bigha, an upper-caste village with plain sight of Shanker Bigha.

Dhoi Bigha is filled with sturdy brick houses inhabited by landowners from the Bhumihar caste, which makes up 3 percent of the state's population. By Western standards, Dhoi Bigha's residents are far from wealthy. Bhumihar landowners in central Bihar own from two to 50 acres of land. But by Bihar's standards, they are the rural elite.

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Human Rights Lawyer Dies in Ulster Car-Bombing



Rosemary Nelson, a lawyer who died Monday in an Ulster bombing.

BELFAST — One of Northern Ireland's best-known Roman Catholic human-rights lawyers was killed by a car bomb on Monday, casting a pall over peace efforts in the British province.

The lawyer, Rosemary Nelson, 40, who had defended Irish republicans in several high-profile court cases, died in a nearby hospital two hours after the bomb blew apart her silver BMW in Lurgan, about 30 miles (45 kilometers) southwest of Belfast.

The force of the blast, which occurred just yards from the school where her 8-year-old daughter was on a lunch break, had taken off both of her legs and caused extensive injuries to her abdomen, authorities said. She died at Craigavon Hospital with her husband at her side.

Prime Minister Tony Blair of Britain condemned the killing as a "disgusting act of barbarity." He said in a statement

issued in London, "No effort will be spared in hunting down" those responsible for "this senseless and despicable act of murder." He said, "The sole aim of this murder is to remove any chance of reconciliation."

Mrs. Nelson had been in the public eye for several years as the legal representative of the Garvaghy Road residents' coalition in nearby Portadown in its long-running and often violent stand-off against the Orange Order, a Protestant group that had insisted on its right to march down the road last July.

Among her other clients were a man accused of killing two policemen and the family of a Catholic man beaten to death by Protestants in Portadown in 1997.

The police said no warning was given for the attack on her, and that no one had claimed responsibility.

The Irish Republican Army's political wing, Sinn Féin, which condemned the

attack, claimed that Mrs. Nelson had been threatened in the past by elements of the Northern Irish police force, the Royal Ulster Constabulary.

A Reuters photographer saw a crowd of protesters smash security cameras at Lurgan's main police station after the killing. They marched with banners reading, "Disband the RUC."

Detective Superintendent Sam Kincaid, in a statement, denounced the "cold-blooded and brutal murder of a well-known solicitor who was also a wife and mother."

The Irish foreign minister, David Andrews, said the car bomb was "very clearly designed to sabotage the peace process at this very critical time."

"Rosemary Nelson's murderers clearly have no interest in the peaceful future which the people of Ireland, north and south, voted for so overwhelmingly," Mr. Andrews said in a statement.

Northern Ireland's peace deal was signed last April 10 and subsequently approved in twin plebiscites in the British-ruled province and the Irish Republic. Britain has set the week of March 29 as a final deadline for a transfer of some rule from London to Belfast but politicians are deadlocked over the pace of guerrilla disarmament. (Reuters, AP)

■ **U.S. Condemns Bombing**

The White House on Monday condemned the car-bombing as a "despicable and cowardly act" and called for an end to the bloodshed. Reuters reported from Washington.

"The killing today of Rosemary Nelson, a leading human rights lawyer in Northern Ireland, was a despicable and cowardly act by the enemies of peace," said the White House spokesman, Joe Lockhart. "Our deepest sympathies go out to her friends and family."

BRIEFLY

Dutch Confirm Toll From Rare Disease

AMSTERDAM — An outbreak of Legionnaires' disease at a flower show last month may have killed as many as nine people, the Dutch health minister, Els Borst, said Monday.

Four of the dead have been confirmed as victims of the pneumonia-like illness. Autopsies were being carried out on the remaining five to establish whether they, too, died of the rare disease.

As the Health Ministry announced the rising toll, efforts continued to trace visitors to the flower show in Bovenkarspel, north of Amsterdam, and to establish the exact source of the outbreak. (AP)

Woman Takes Over Norway's Defense

OSLO — Eldbjørg Loewer became Norway's first female defense minister on Monday.

Prime Minister Kjell Magne Bondevik named Loewer, 56, as part of a reshuffle of his cabinet that also covered the transport, justice, labor and oil ministries.

"I've run male-dominated work places most of my life," Ms. Loewer told reporters in her new office. She was formerly labor minister in Mr. Bondevik's cabinet, formed in October 1997. (Reuters)

Agriculture Aide Resigns in Poland

WARSAW — Poland's agriculture minister, who was the focus of nationwide demonstrations by farmers angered over sinking prices, resigned Monday after losing key political backing.

Jacek Janiszewski, 38, a member of the senior partner in the Solidarity coalition government, handed in his resignation during a meeting with Prime Minister Jerzy Buzek, the PAP news agency and Teleexpress TV news reported.

Mr. Janiszewski had been expected to lose the post under a cabinet restructuring already under way and due to be completed by April 1. During the weekend, the Conservative Peasant Party withdrew its backing for him. (AP)

For the Record

Two boys, Jon Venables and Robert Thompson, convicted of murdering the toddler James Bulger in a case that shocked Britain six years ago, were told Monday that they can take their case before the European Court of Human Rights. (AP)

Left and Right Take Aim At Schroeder the Centrist

By John Schmid
International Herald Tribune

FRANKFURT — No sooner had Chancellor Gerhard Schröder signaled a rightward shift toward his self-declared political "new center" than he drew fire Monday from both sides of the political spectrum in Germany.

In the wake of the abrupt resignation

2 Balloonists Claim Record

GENEVA — The Swiss-English team trying to circle the world in a balloon *nonstop* appeared to have broken the distance record of Steve Fossett, the American millionaire, subject to official verification, their control center said Monday.

The center's computers showed that by Monday, Bertrand Piccard of Switzerland and Brian Jones of Britain had traveled 15,540 miles (24,864 kilometers) since they left the Swiss Alps on March 1.

The center said the record claim is subject to verification by the International Federation of Aviation, which credits Mr. Fossett with flying 14,236 miles before ditching near Australia in August.

Mr. Fossett, 40, was on his 15,203 miles, but if the flying Orbiter-3's distance is confirmed, it will have beaten both of the Fossett distances.

Mr. Piccard and Mr. Jones have been picking up speed over the Pacific Ocean and were traveling at 72 mph toward Hawaii, the center said.

The team passed the halfway point Saturday in their round-the-world bid. If they complete their trip by making it back to North Africa, possibly by this weekend, they will have traveled more than 26,000 miles.

"With them getting into the jet stream and picking up speed, it's getting exciting," said a staffer at the control center in Geneva.

"They're in incredibly good spirits," added Brian Smith, a controller, who went on to describe the risky procedure by which the two pilots left their gondola Sunday to check the balloon's fuel cylinder valve.

Croatia Trying Commandant Of Death Camp

ZAGREB, Croatia — The world's last known surviving concentration camp commander during World War II, Dinko Sakic, pleaded not guilty Monday at the start of his trial on charges of war crimes.

Asked by a judge in Zagreb how he pleaded to charges that he was responsible for the death of at least 2,000 people in a fascist Ustaše concentration camp, Mr. Sakic, 77, replied, "Absolutely not guilty on any of the counts."

In all, tens of thousands of Serbs, Jews and Gypsies were killed in the camp, Jasenovac, southeast of Zagreb.

"My conscience is clear," he said. "I would like to add a few words," he started to add before Judge Drzen Tepalo cut him off, reminding him of his right to remain silent.

Mr. Sakic is the first member of the fascist Ustaše regime that ruled Croatia from 1941 until 1945 to be tried for war crimes relating to World War II since Croatia gained independence in 1991.

He fled abroad after the war and was extradited from Argentina.

The defendant smiled and looked relaxed as he took his place in the courtroom, before telling the judge he had recovered from health problems that had forced the hearing to be postponed for 10 days.

The news that the trial will proceed will come as a relief to Jewish groups that were bitterly disappointed at the postponement. They feared that the medical problems were being used to create delays and reduce media attention.

The Jasenovac camp has become known as the "Auschwitz of the Balkans" because of the extraordinary brutality against inmates there.



EARLY SPRING IN RUSSIA — Two boys floating on blocks of ice near the Pacific city of Vladivostok.

Britain Arrests Islamic Cleric Sought by Yemen

LONDON — An Islamic fundamentalist leader whose son has been charged with plotting terrorist activities in Yemen was arrested Monday in London, the police said.

The fundamentalist leader, Sheikh Abu Hamza Masry, who preaches at a London mosque, was detained under Britain's anti-terrorism act, Scotland Yard said. He was arrested in a series of raids along with two other men, whose identities the police would not disclose.

Under the anti-terrorism act, the men can be questioned for 48 hours. They then can be held for five more days without being charged if Home Secretary Jack Straw gives his approval.

Scotland Yard said the raids had been planned for some time and were part of an investigation, but it declined to provide more details.

Yemeni officials, who requested Sheikh Abu Hamza's arrest and extradition in January, had said he was linked to terrorist activities in their nation. He has denied the allegations.

His son, Mohammed Mustafa Kamel, is among 10 British and French citizens being tried in Yemen on charges of associating with armed groups, plotting murder and destruction, and possessing weapons. The authorities said that last month Mr. Kamel confessed to forming an armed group in Yemen but denied the weapons charges. All the other defendants have denied the charges.

Sheikh Abu Hamza's Islamic group,

TURKEY: With a National Election Approaching, Prime Minister Warns of Chaos

Continued from Page 1

been rare in Turkey's western cities, which lie far from the southeastern provinces where the Kurdish war is being fought.

But the bombing Saturday was the third fatal terrorist attack this month. A Maoist faction killed three people, including a 14-year-old girl, in a car bombing that was directed at a provincial governor near Ankara on March 5. The police arrested one person, and information he provided led to a house that contained an arsenal of guns and bombs. Last week, two bombs exploded in Istanbul; one of them killed a taxi driver.

The Turkish authorities have announced that they will try Ocalan, probably within the next few months. He has been charged with treason, which can carry the death penalty, and may also be charged with responsibility for a series of fatal attacks launched by his guerrilla fighters.

"There's a disturbing combination of things happening at the same time," said a foreign diplomat posted in Istanbul.

"You've got a potentially very important election coming up, Parliament is in upheaval, and now this rash of bombings. If the attacks spread to tourist areas, the problem is going to become economic as well as political. All in all it's quite a messy moment."

The legislators who convened the extraordinary session of Parliament are angry that their party leaders have dropped them from lists of candidates for re-election. They want the April 18 election postponed and are supported by one party that is afraid it will fail to win the 10 percent of votes necessary to enter Parliament if the vote is held next month.

Parliament was to meet again Tuesday and may take up the issue of election postponement. Some deputies from the Islamic-oriented Virtue Party also supported convening Parliament during the recess. They do not care when the election is held, but want to repeal a law that allows parties to be banned if they are deemed to be challenging the secular nature of the republic.

They also seek to overturn a court ruling under which Necmettin Erbakan, a former prime minister, was found to be introducing religion into politics and forbidden to run for Parliament or participate in politics for the next five years.

■ **'State of War' in Tourist Areas**

A statement from the Kurdistan Workers Party said Turkey's vacation resorts, which attract millions of tourists, were included in areas deemed to be in a "state of war." The Associated Press reported.

"It has been decided to escalate the war against the Turkish state in every field until President Apo is provided with his freedom," the statement said, referring to Mr. Ocalan by his nickname.

"Turkey as a whole is a war zone at the moment, including those areas considered by Turkey as tourist sites."

"It is essential that no tourist comes to Turkey, that governments warn their citizens and that travel companies cancel reservations," said the statement, carried by the Germany-based pro-Kurdish news agency DEM.

Germans are among the biggest group of foreigners who vacation in Turkey, and the German Foreign Ministry on Monday issued a travel advisory that said, "The recent threats from Kurdish circles close to the PKK against tourist targets in Turkey must be taken seriously."

The ministry added that clashes between Turkish forces and Kurds in the mountains near Antalya, a favorite seaside destination of Germans, could not be ruled out.

But Turkey's tourism minister, Ahmet Tan, criticized the German warning. "No country is 100 percent safe," Mr. Tan said. "By issuing warnings, countries like Germany are trying to save themselves from any responsibility for their citizens."

Turkey's Aegean and Mediterranean coasts usually draw some 9 million foreign visitors a year. Travel agents complained of a slow start to the season because of the recent violence.

The rebels have long tried to scare foreign visitors away to hurt government coffers that they say help finance the military crackdown against them.

SWEDEN: The Nation's Corporations and Brains Flee for More Favorable Shores

Continued from Page 1

and support services with them.

If that was not bad enough, the experience of Mr. Carlquist and the flight of a number of home-grown technology specialists and entrepreneurs has set off talk of a brain drain, suggesting that Sweden no longer attracts or keeps the kind of talent on which its future prosperity depends.

Michael Treschow, the chief executive of Electrolux, warned of a "creeping exodus" unless the government signaled the start of major tax cuts in a special budget next month.

"All the entrepreneurial people are moving outside Sweden, and they won't come back," warned Franco Fedeli, the chief executive of Icon Medialab International AB, a fast-growing Internet services company. "In this new economy, you can work anywhere you want. That's why it's important to get taxes down."

After taking advice from a business-labor panel that included Mr. Fedeli and Mr. Treschow, the Social Democratic government has signaled that the April budget will include some tax changes.

But Prime Minister Goran Persson played down the need for radical reform, saying the country's 3.2 percent growth rate last year, a virtual absence of inflation and the government's rising budget surplus were indicators of robust economic health.

"It's rather strange to hear that we have a bad business climate," Mr. Persson said in an interview. "Of course it isn't true. If it was true, we couldn't have all these good figures."

Mr. Persson acknowledged that globalization was hitting Sweden particularly hard because of the high proportion of multinational companies here, like Electrolux, ABB and Ericsson AB, which is moving its European headquarters to London. But he welcomed foreign investment, calling Ford Motor Co.'s \$6 billion purchase of Volvo Cars "a sign of belief in Volvo."

Mr. Persson also dismissed the idea of a brain drain, insisting that while more Swedes were going abroad to gain experience these days, most would come back, a view that many in business dispute.

Mr. Persson said he was keen to cut taxes after having raised them as finance minister earlier this decade to close a huge budget deficit. But rather than promise immediate reductions, he said the government would use growing budget surpluses projected for the year 2000 and beyond to cut taxes and make "improvements in the social sector."

While business is eager to see the repeal of a 5 percent surtax on workers earning more than 324,000 kronor (\$3,977) a month, Mr. Persson said reductions were likely to be spread across the board rather than aimed at high earners. He also said the government would not necessarily abolish the double taxation of corporate dividends, a cost that prompted Stora and Nordbanken AB to move headquarters to Helsinki when they merged with Finnish partners.

For many business and political leaders on the center-right, the hints fall far short of what is needed, reflecting the Social Democratic Party's resistance to change and dependence on the support of the former Communists and the Green Party.

They argue that Sweden's overall tax burden of 54 percent of gross domestic product is stifling growth, and warn that unless taxes and welfare payments are cut significantly, more individuals and companies are likely to flee.

"It's a dangerous illusion to think you can cut taxes without cutting expenditure," said Carl Bildt, the leader of the opposition Moderate Party.

Of course taxes are not Sweden's only competitive disadvantage. The country's remoteness on Europe's northern fringe, its cultural homogeneity and its position outside the euro zone all tend to discourage foreign investment, conceded Jacob Wallenberg, chairman of Skandinaviska Enskilda Banken AB and senior vice president of Investor AB, the Wallenberg family vehicle that engineered the merger of Astra with Zeneca Group PLC of Britain and Stora with Enso Oy of Finland.

But, he added, those handicaps make tax issues all the more crucial. "Maybe we have to be even better than our competitors to compensate for our negatives," he said.

To illustrate the possibilities and the threats facing Sweden's economy, there are few better examples than Icon Medialab, one of the country's fastest-growing firms.

The company creates Internet sites, electronic-commerce platforms and Intranets for big and small companies. After just three years of existence, it has 400 employees, sales of 131 million kronor and a stock market value of around 725 million kronor.

Sweden's good education system and ready acceptance of technology, including one of the world's highest rates of computer ownership and Internet use, provided a good environment to create the company, said Mr. Fedeli, the chief executive.

But most of the growth is coming from outside Sweden today, and Icon Medialab is likely to move its stock listing, and perhaps its headquarters, out of the country in the coming year, he said.

Perhaps more important, three of the company's four founders have left the country to escape a tax system that treats most capital gains on start-up companies as income, subjecting them to an effective tax rate of more than 60 percent. "It prevents any founder of a company from becoming rich," Mr. Fedeli said.

Two of the founders now live in the Netherlands and one in San Francisco. "Their next venture won't be in Sweden," Mr. Fedeli said. "It will be in the Netherlands or in Silicon Valley."

EDITORIALS/OPINION

Herald Tribune

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Growth and the Left

It has been noted that much of Western Europe is now governed by left-wing political parties, a sharp change from the Thatcher-Kohl days of yore. But it is not clear how left those left-wing parties really are. British Prime Minister Tony Blair followed President Bill Clinton's lead in steering his Labour Party away from its union base and toward a pragmatic centrism. Now Germany looks set to follow the same course after the resignation of Finance Minister Oskar Lafontaine, who as head of the Social Democratic Party had been the chief force tugging his government leftward.

All this has implications beyond Germany or even Europe. After the Soviet Union collapsed, political scientists were quick to declare victory for free market economics and right-wing politics. Then a financial collapse that began in Asia and spread through Russia toward Brazil prompted a re-examination of that conventional wisdom. Perhaps the free market ideology had gone too far, the experts said; perhaps it was time to re-evaluate the faith in open capital markets and minimal government intervention.

That may still hold true, but Mr. Lafontaine's resignation in one sense shows the limits of any single politician, or any single country, to stem the tide of global capitalism.

As finance minister, he sought to impose higher taxes on industry as part of a "socially just" tax reform that would also cut taxes for workers. He resisted any reform of Germany's gen-

erous social welfare programs. The results were unhappy. Some businesses threatened to leave Germany altogether. Few were willing to invest. Germany's high unemployment rate was undented, and the economy fell into a slump. Financial markets soared on news of his departure.

The increasing power of capital to move across borders to the most congenial environment can in many ways boost productivity, efficiency and prosperity. But it raises concerns; among others, there is considerable evidence that it promotes inequality between rich and poor. The right, by and large, is not troubled by that. The old left is troubled but without solutions. Chancellor Gerhard Schröder now joins Mr. Blair and Mr. Clinton with a chance to demonstrate whether the new left — the centrist-pragmatist-triangular Third Way left — has any better ideas.

The United States has more than an academic interest in Europe's success or failure at promoting growth. So far, the remarkable U.S. economy has helped stave off global recession as developing countries suffer. But without more help from Japan and Europe, the growth of imports into the United States may become intolerable, at least in political terms. Mr. Lafontaine's pressure on Europe's new central bank to lower interest rates provoked resistance and undermined the euro. But the notion that Europe should stimulate demand is not far-fetched.

—THE WASHINGTON POST.

High Noon for the IOC

In the wake of the Salt Lake City Olympic bribery scandal, corporate sponsors of the Games like John Hancock Mutual Life Insurance have wisely decided to think about how else they might spend their money. The International Olympic Committee ought to keep that in mind as its members gather this week in Switzerland to determine how much to reform their discredited organization. The answer is a lot.

If it wishes to survive as the custodian of the Olympics, the IOC must transform itself, discarding the clubby, self-indulgent traditions that tolerated corruption. Instead of operating with an arrogance and secrecy that the Soviet Politburo would have envied, the IOC must do business openly and democratically. That means establishing and scrupulously following corruption-proof criteria for the selection of host cities. The best way to insulate the selection process may be to have an impartial panel of experts on sports facilities nominate two finalists on which the IOC would vote.

The IOC should also become a representative body, with members who serve fixed terms and are elected by national Olympic committees or qualified athletic organizations from all countries. Although the IOC is a nonprofit organization, it handles billions

of dollars from corporate sponsors and broadcast rights. Its books and business practices should be as transparent as those of a publicly traded corporation. Nations that host the Games should declare the IOC an international public organization. That would bring it under international anti-bribery laws.

Many of the 105 delegates seem to think that they need only ratify a recommendation to expel members found to have engaged in corrupt practices involving the selection of Salt Lake City. That is the minimum they must do, and it should be done by open ballot. The members must not reject or water down the expulsions proposed by Richard Pound, an IOC member who led the investigation. The members also ought to find a new president unencumbered by the Salt Lake City scandal. The incumbent president, Juan Antonio Samaranch, can no longer credibly lead the IOC.

Disturbingly, a report issued on Friday by the IOC tried to shift blame for the scandal to the Salt Lake and American Olympic organizations and failed to recommend expulsion of the most powerful IOC delegate implicated. If the IOC refuses to reform itself this week, sponsors like John Hancock should let it wither away.

—THE NEW YORK TIMES.

Other Comment

The Real Threat in China

The great threat emanating from today's China is the prospect of an economic downturn leading to social and political instability. Economic growth last year was nowhere near the official figure of 7.8 percent, but was widely considered to be between 3 and 5 percent. Enormous problems accompany this declining rate of growth, including state enterprises that need reform, unemployment, underemployment, and regional economic disparities. The Communists are watching a "floating population" of as many as 130 million peasants drifting to the cities in search of work.

They see peasants rioting in villages and workers rioting in cities. They know they cannot afford to continue subsidizing uncompetitive state enterprises, but they fear that the Chinese economy cannot generate enough jobs to absorb the tens of millions of workers who must be cast out of the state-owned factories without a social safety net.

The United States need not nudge its criticism of Beijing's crackdown on dissidents, but it should nurture a patient and confident expectation that a new Chinese generation, molded by the Internet and the entrepreneurial principle of constant change, will soon undo the structures of the old Reds.

—The Boston Globe.

The Importance of Asia

Americans have learned that the fate of Asia is also our fate. Our freedom and prosperity depend on the freedom and prosperity of Asians. This fact is sometimes forgotten in America today. It should not be. Asia is as important to America today as it was in 1941.

Our security depends on the network of military alliances with Japan and South Korea to preserve peace and stability in Asia. Asia today presents many challenges. Threats of ballistic missiles to our shores are raising their ugly heads in Asia (from North Korea). China is emerging as a world power, challenging us not only in Asia but globally as well.

The jobs of millions of Americans depend on U.S. exports to Asia. I wish I could conclude that the Clinton administration's responses to the challenges of Asia have been adequate. I cannot. All too often the administration has treated Asia haphazardly, often reversing policy without sufficient explanation, confusing friend and foe alike, and failing to bring all the pieces of U.S. policy together in a coherent strategy.

—Edwin J. Feulner, president of the Heritage Foundation, testifying recently before the U.S. House of Representatives' subcommittee on Asia and the Pacific.

A Bull Market Gallops On, Destination Unknown

By Floyd Norris

NEW YORK — There has never been a bull market quite like the one that America is now enjoying. And while there is logically no more significance to approaching 10,000 on the Dow Jones industrial average than to approaching 9,500 or any other number, it is worth noting just how far and fast we have come.

This bull market has reflected and encouraged a renaissance of America's economic power and self-confidence. Its very existence is one reason the economy has been so strong. The impact of an end to the bull market would be felt even by those who have never invested in a stock or mutual fund.

That group, to be sure, is dwindling. As the bull has grown, stocks have gone from a subject of scorn, seen by many as little more than gambling, to being widely regarded as the best long-term investment, one that both Democrats and Republicans agree should be bought to help finance Social Security. America itself has gone from fearful to supremely self-confident.

The birth of this bull came on Dec. 6, 1974, although no one knew it at the

time. That was when the Dow hit bottom at 377.60, having plunged by 45 percent in less than two years amid the worst economic news that America had seen since the Great Depression. The country was in a recession and inflation was rising. New York City, the financial capital of the country, was on the verge of going broke.

American industry appeared to be in an irreversible decline. There were predictions that first the oil-producing countries and then the Japanese would buy America. Such fears played a role in the next two presidential elections, in which incumbents were rejected.

At the bottom in 1974, the stocks in the Standard & Poor's 500 index were trading at seven times that year's profits. On average, those stocks paid dividends equal to 5.8 percent of their purchase price.

A quarter-century later, almost everything has changed. Books celebrate the American century, and Americans lecture Japanese on economics. Com-

modity prices are low, and producers are suffering. Technology is preeminent. The value in many companies is seen as being in their brand names, not in their manufacturing plants, which are viewed as expendable.

The rise in stock prices can be traced only in part to the country's economic success. Corporate profits have risen in recent years, but not nearly as rapidly as stock prices. The S&P 500 is at 28-times estimated profits, and has a dividend yield of 1.3 percent.

If investors were willing to pay about the same price for profits and dividends as they were in 1974, the Dow today would be around 2,500, not on the verge of topping 10,000. If valuations were equal to those at the 1987 peak, before that year's crash, the Dow would be somewhere between 5,000 and 7,000. That people are willing to pay so much more is a tribute to optimism and to the fact that stocks are now viewed as a long-term sure thing.

In the past couple of years, the breadth of the great bull market has narrowed. Stocks in smaller companies (Internet operations excluded) have

lagged notably, and the Russell 2,000, an index of stocks that rank just below the 1,000 largest companies, is now about where it was in mid-1997, while the Dow is up by nearly 30 percent. For most of the decade, the biggest winners have been in technology and financial services — the industries through which America has re-emerged as the world's strongest economy.

At the same time, the very existence of the bull market has made Americans far more willing to spend on houses, cars, cell phones and all the other accoutrements of the good life. In recent years, that spending has consistently exceeded economists' expectations, producing surprisingly fast growth and reinforcing the bull market.

When—or should I say "if"—the bull market ends, the impact on the American economy and psyche will be much greater than it would have been before so many Americans pinned their hopes for the future on Wall Street's advance. No doubt the pessimism of 1974 was excessive, but so, too, may be the optimism of 1999.

The New York Times.

Behind This Crazy Stock Market Is a Healthy American Economy

By David Ignatius

WASHINGTON — Last week, as the Dow Jones average was nearing the summit of 10,000, I called the head of a big investment bank and asked him what people on Wall Street were talking about these days. "This crazy stock market," he said in a tone of bewilderment. "People are mystified by it."

We might call it the Rational Exuberance Market, because it is driven by the real dynamism of the American business and technology revolution that is sweeping the world.

The fact remains that this is one crazy market. You make money buying things that are expensive, like perennial glamour stocks Microsoft or Gillette, and lose money buying things that are cheap, like down-in-the-dumps natural resource stocks or industrial commodities.

Many smart people have been wrong about this market.

They looked at valuations back in 1995, when the Dow broke through 5,000, or in 1997, when it hit 8,000, and concluded that it was overvalued. Stocks were trading at what looked like unsustainably high price-to-earnings ratios.

The biggest worries, understandably, have tended to be the veteran investors with the most to lose. I think of an investment banker from Morgan Stanley who warned me solemnly last October that the market had only a few more weeks of strength to sell into before it shattered.

I think of the CEO of a big concern who told me a month ago that he was unloading his stock portfolio because he saw very little potential benefit on the upside, and lots of risk on the downside.

At some point, of course, a market correction will set in,

and the bears will congratulate themselves for being right after all. But as the Dow nears the magic five-digit barrier, it makes sense to stop arguing with this market and try to accept it on its own terms. What is this crazy market telling us?

There is an awful lot of money out there chasing a limited pool of U.S. stocks. So long as money keeps pouring in from mutual funds, 401(k) plans and global investors who want a piece of the American pie, then prices will keep rising for brand name stocks, well beyond levels that would otherwise make sense.

Markets are driven by psychology. The economist who understood this best was John Maynard Keynes, who was an avid investor himself. He noted that in periods of growth, investors were driven by what he called "animal spirits," a

surging optimism that leads them to put aside their normal caution and plunge long-term.

But in bad times, Keynes observed, a kind of animal panic takes over. He called it "liquidity preference," a fear so acute that investors insist on the safest, most-liquid investments, like government bonds. We saw a whiff of that panic last August and September after the Russians defaulted on their debt, when investors raced to the safety of Treasury bills, and the market for riskier debt nearly collapsed. No doubt we shall see that panic again some day.

This amazing market reflects the amazing health of the U.S. economy. Behind the boom is the 1990s' unusual combination of rapid growth combined with low inflation and low interest rates. And U.S. business is reaping the benefits of the wave of restructuring and cost-cutting that swept the

economy in the late 1980s and early '90s. That process costs millions of workers their jobs, but it made American companies the toughest and most aggressive in the world.

A similar restructuring process is beginning in Europe. The old coddled European economy in which each country tried to have its own car company, pharmaceutical company, steel company, is breaking down. A genuinely European economy is being created, which will be dominated by the leanest and meanest. When those new pan-European companies hit the global economy, we shall be talking about the Euro-boom.

And where will the Dow Jones average be then? Will it have surged on to 15,000? Will it have fallen back to 8,000? The amazing fact is that nobody knows, least of all the smart people.

The Washington Post.

Threats and Opportunities: Leaders Need to Speak Out

By Robert M. Gates

NEW YORK — The present furor in Washington over Chinese espionage at Los Alamos offers fresh evidence that finger-pointing and sound bites are a lousy way to protect and advance American security interests.

Too many officials, at both ends of Pennsylvania Avenue, are trying harder to make political hay or to protect themselves than to explain the larger lessons of China's actions and lax American security.

And too many commentators would rather egg on the antagonists for another good fight than shed light on the real issues at stake.

Is anyone really surprised that China spies on the United States, trying to steal military, economic, technological and intelligence secrets? Does anyone believe that this is new?

Recall the case of Larry Wu-tai Chin, the CIA employee who was arrested in the mid-1980s for spying for China. He was hardly the only one. Russia also

continues to spy, although many seemed surprised that a post-Cold War Russian intelligence service continued to run the Soviet spy Aldrich Ames as a mole in the CIA. America's broader relationship with both countries has continued nonetheless.

And it is not just old adversaries who spy. How about Israel paying Jonathan Pollard for thousands of pages of sensitive American intelligence documents?

Or the French intelligence services stealing American business secrets by planting moles in American companies and bugging the hotel rooms of visiting American businessmen? Or the 20 or so other foreign governments that spy on American businesses?

The point of this is not to excuse China's espionage on the ground that everyone does it, but to highlight a reality that both the Clinton administration and its critics neglect: De-

spite the boohooing of countless summit meetings and press statements, the post-Cold War world is a very tough neighborhood in which nations still cynically and ruthlessly pursue their own interests.

Governments modernize and enlarge their military forces, they spy, they sell technology for weapons of mass destruction, they lie and they cheat in order to amass power and wealth. (Nor are our America's intelligence services idle in promoting American interests and protecting it from others.)

We should draw three lessons from this reality.

In a tough world — the only world there has ever been, really — Americans should recognize the critical and enduring importance of American strength and enhance that strength in all its dimensions: military, intelligence and diplomatic. Nor can vigilance be allowed to slacken. And that

includes protecting secrets that matter, like nuclear weapons technology.

Second, leaders need to help Americans understand that today the country will find most nations to be both its partners and its adversaries, sometimes simultaneously. Pigeonholing most countries as either friend or foe is wrongheaded and undermines the national interest.

This is not realpolitik, it is just plain common sense. The challenge, as always, is how to encourage behavior that advances U.S. interests (and values) and to discourage behavior that does not — and to do both these things in a manner that promotes long-term constructive relations with other world powers.

Third, too many foreign policy experts, especially in the current administration, have often tried to play down or put the best face on troubling actions by Russia, China, North Korea and others. This does a disservice to the public's understanding of what is going on, and thus to the country's ability to act in response.

For instance, when officials fail to address candidly the pervasive corruption in the Russian government (and the theft of billions in Western aid), as well as Moscow's aid to Iran's missile program and Russian obstructionism in the former Yugoslavia, this makes it harder for them to justify attempts to build closer ties with Russia.

Similarly, the failure to acknowledge China's misbehavior — its role in the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, its theft of technology, its

aggressive espionage, its repression of internal dissent — undermines the U.S. government's efforts to foster a stable, mutually beneficial relationship with China.

Such relationships are complicated. Washington — and the media — should stop underestimating Americans' ability to understand this if given the full story. The more Americans know about both friendly and unfriendly behavior by powers like Russia and China, the better they will understand a mix of policies that together protect and advance American interests.

That imposes a burden on both the administration and Congress to be forthright and honest about what they know, the good, the bad and the ugly. It is a burden that neither, so far, has effectively shouldered.

When leaders fail to speak forthrightly about the dangers that confront the United States, many citizens simply turn their backs on a complicated and confusing world.

The writer, a career intelligence officer, served on the National Security Council staff under four presidents and was CIA director under George Bush. He contributed this comment to The New York Times.

Letters intended for publication should be addressed "Letters to the Editor" and contain the writer's signature, name and full address. Letters should be brief and are subject to editing. We cannot be responsible for the return of unsolicited manuscripts.

When the Big Blocs Go Bananas

By Philip Bowring

HONG KONG — Whether it is phony war, a proxy war or the first skirmish in a wider conflict, the EU-U.S. conflict over bananas is being watched in Asia with incredulity and worry.

At one level it is a bizarre, almost amusing spectacle, giant trading blocs in a major quarrel over a fruit that neither produces — bananas.

But Asia is a region which for two years has been lectured almost daily by the United States, by Europe and by the international institutions that they dominate on the need for open markets, for transparency and for abiding by the rules of the game. This is a region which has been forced to obey imposed rules as well as go well beyond WTO requirements in opening markets, accepting international pricing of basic foodstuffs, and so on.

Doubtless if Thailand were an importer of bananas there would have been some mention of banana tariffs in an IMF letter of intent. Whatever the niceties of the banana dispute, it reveals protectionism, untransparent sectional interests, and sheer pettiness. Indeed, it has all the stereotypes — an arrogant, bullying United States, a Europe that is smug, evasive, unwilling to change.

A dispute of this magnitude is clearly not about the interests of the small, poor developing countries of Central America, the Caribbean and Africa which export the fruit. Most of the value added in banana exports ends up with foreign middlemen and brand name owners, whether in the United States or in Europe.

Those concerned about genuinely free markets might care to look at distribution oligopolies. Those really interested in resolving the trade issue might look to investing modestly in improved banana productivity, or in new crops, in a handful of dirt-poor countries, rather than put billions' worth of other trade at risk.

The EU-U.S. performance gives the impression that the two blocs regard the World Trade Organization as their playing field, using it when they see fit, ignoring it otherwise. Both engage in threats out of all proportion to the issues at stake, while lecturing the world on the need to follow rules and procedures.

The banana fiasco is yet another reason why it is past time for the head of the WTO to come from a region other than Europe or North America, and preferably from a country which has shown a real commitment to trade liberalization even in the most difficult of circumstances. The job is up for grabs when the Italian incumbent, Renato

Ruggiero, retires next month.

The episode ought to promote the candidacy of Thailand's Deputy Prime Minister Supachai Panichpakdi, an economist and politician who has long been a free trade advocate and has done more than anyone to keep Thailand on a path of liberalization through the Asian crisis.

Or the candidacy of Mike Moore from New Zealand, a small nation with an unusually open economy and one which has suffered more than most from the farm policies of Europe and the United States.

If the liberalizing agenda of the WTO is to flourish, it needs a head who represents a more diverse world than the North Atlantic.

If the next world trade round is to gain momentum, the WTO must broaden its constituent base. It must be seen to identify with all players in the trading system, especially with those yet to be entirely convinced that freer trade is practical and desirable for all, not just for the developed elite.

Meanwhile, the European Union and the United States deserve to be punished by the rest of the international trading community. Their behavior in the banana affair has tarnished the system that they built. They should forfeit their assumptions of a right to leadership.

International Herald Tribune.

Herald Tribune

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Editor for Asia: Michael Richardson, 3 Canabury Rd., Singapore 119902. Tel: (65) 472-7768. Fax: (65) 224-2334.
Mtg. Dir. Asia: Nigel J. Oakes, #1201, 191 Joo Road, Hong Kong. Tel: 852-2922-1188. Fax: 852-2922-1190.
Gen. Mgr. Germany: T. Schiller, Friedrichstr. 15, 10823 Frankfurt, Germany. Tel: +49 69 971250-0. Fax: +49 69 971250-30.
U.S. Office: 800 Third Ave., New York, N.Y. 10022. Tel: (212) 752-3800. Fax: (212) 755-8785.
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OPINION/LETTERS

The Republican Party Is Reinventing Itself

By E.J. Dionne Jr.

WASHINGTON — The Republican Party is reinventing itself. It is finally realizing that it is not in the 1980s anymore, and that it cannot run against the '60s forever. That is what the seemingly unstoppable rise of Governor George W. Bush of Texas means, but it is also what explains the interest in the presidential candidacies of Elizabeth Dole and of Senator John McCain of Arizona.

While most Republicans do not want to admit it, they are changing because they are coming to terms with the transformation in American politics brought about by the man they referred to scornfully during the impeachment battle as William Jefferson Clinton.

The obvious agents of change are the party's governors — much as Mr. Clinton, the governor, was a change agent in the Democratic Party. Governors, unlike members of Congress, normally build expansive coalitions to win office — just as the Republicans need to do now.

"By the circumstances we are involved in, we are obliged — you can't avoid it — to be involved with and serve diverse populations," said Governor Marc Racicot of Montana, a Republican who has been organizing his colleagues on behalf of Mr. Bush.

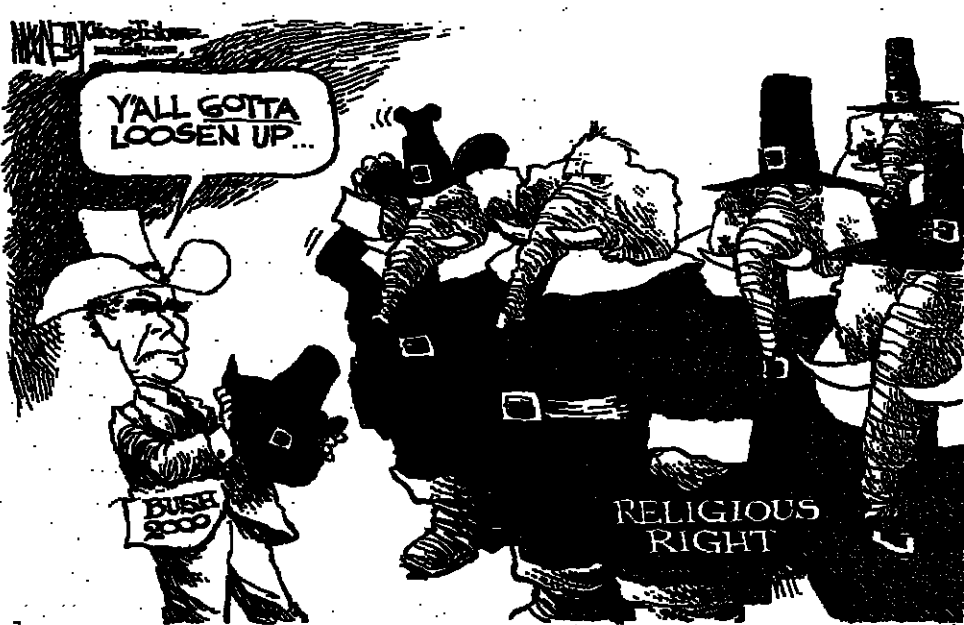
The power of the governors, and of Mr. Bush in particular, rests not simply on the nature of their jobs but on a significant change in the political argument.

The Republican Revolution of 1994 was inspired by the anti-government views of the economist Friedrich Hayek, who tirelessly campaigned against government interference in free markets. Most Republicans still prefer the market to government, but they are prepared to give government respect that they were not giving it before.

Their change of heart reflects a simple calculation: Attacks on government, and on the services governments provide, no longer work as an electoral strategy. Listen to Marc Spitzer, a top Republican in the Arizona Senate and a firm foe of big government spending: "There's an emerging majority that's fiscally conservative but recognizes that there's a role for government, a limited role for government, that assists people in solving problems."

The Bush phenomenon is as interesting as any. His popularity in Texas is built in part on issues that Mr. Clinton seemed to have a patent on. His education reforms are tough enough for conservatives and successful enough for everybody else. His shifting of state education spending actually moved money to poorer school districts — and was opposed by many in his own party even as it won support from Democrats.

Then there is his embrace of "compassionate conservatism." The compassionate conservative believes that social problems are best solved by strengthening programs run by churches and community



groups, rather than through government intervention. Alex Castellanos, a Republican consultant, sees compassionate conservatism as defining "a more decentralized, modern, dynamic" approach to social ills and a declaration that "we actually believe we can help more people."

Here, too, the conservatives are learning from Mr. Clinton. "Clinton has shown an ability to evince some compassion and Republicans haven't been able to," Mr. Spitzer said.

The late political writer Samuel Lubell argued that the United States rarely has a two-party system. It has a one-and-a-half-party system, a "sun" party whose light dominates the landscape and a "moon" party that either reflects off or reacts to the sun party.

In the 1980s, political conservatism in the Republican Party was the sun. Democrats and liberals spent more than a decade responding. The result was Mr.

Clinton's formula, much as the British Labour Party's response to Thatcherism was Tony Blair's "Third Way."

The Republicans' "government is the problem" view is not the sun anymore. It has been supplanted by a moderate progressivism that accepts government's necessary role.

But that does not mean that Democrats have translated this philosophical transformation into partisan dominance. Judging by the vote count in recent elections, there is no dominant political party now. The strength that both Mr. Bush and Mrs. Dole show in the polls against Vice President Al Gore suggests that Republicans still have the capacity to shape the political debate in 2000 to their liking.

But by fits and starts, Republicans are realizing that if they are to do this, they will have to respond to the problems that Mr. Clinton brought to the fore — education, social in-

surance, health care reform and child care — and to the public's embrace of his idea that it takes a moderate but active government to solve them.

Whether Mr. Bush is all that his supporters say he is — and whether he can bridge the Republican divide on such issues as abortion — will be tested over the next year and a half. The rethinking in the Republican Party is not as far along as Democratic rethinking was in 1992. And there will be much Republican resistance to accommodating the American majority's desire for a governing party that does not view government as unnecessary.

But if bringing about that accommodation is Mr. Bush's essential mission, there is much he could learn from the man in the White House. "I believe that just as Bill Clinton was a New Democrat," Mr. Castellanos said, "this year there's going to be a New Republican."

The Washington Post

A Forgotten Papal Encyclical Might Have Changed History

By Marvin Hier

LOS ANGELES — As the 20th century draws to a close, Pope John Paul II is expected to journey to the Holy Land to help mark the millennium. He is also expected to make a decision regarding the candidacy for sainthood of three of his predecessors, John XXIII, Paul VI and Pius XII, who was the Pope during the Holocaust. The beatification of Pius XII would be condemned by many Holocaust survivors and Jewish organizations, including the Simon Wiesenthal Center.

Only this month, a London newspaper said that the independent judge for the

American blacks and knew instinctively that he was the right man for the job. He told the startled priest to write the encyclical as if he were the Pope. Father Lafarge and two colleagues worked feverishly to prepare the document "that they called 'Humani Generis Unitas' ('Unity of the Human Race')."

On Sept. 20, 1938, Father Lafarge handed in the completed document to the father superior of the Jesuits in Rome. It condemned anti-Semitism in language never before uttered by a Pope.

"Millions of persons are deprived of the most elementary rights, denied legal protection against violence and robbery, exposed to every insult and public degradation. Innocent persons are treated as criminals; even those who in time of war fought bravely for their country are treated as traitors. ... This flagrant denial of human rights sends many thousands of helpless persons out over the face of the Earth without any resources."

Coincidentally, on the day Father Lafarge handed in the encyclical, Pius XI, speaking to a group of Christian pilgrims, said: "Abraham is our patriarch and forefather. Anti-Semitism is incompatible with that lofty thought. It is a movement with which we Christians can have nothing to do." He added, "Spiritually, we are all Semites."

Tragically, Father Lafarge's document was too shocking for some conservative prelates in Rome. They delayed sending it on to the ailing Pope, who kept asking for it but never saw it until it was too late.

With Father Lafarge's encyclical on his desk, Pius XI died on Feb. 10, 1939, before he could sign it. The new Pope, Pius XII, refused to issue it. Mysteriously, the document soon disappeared and not another word was heard about it until the National Catholic Reporter broke the story 43 years later.

What would have happened if the encyclical had been signed? Many believe that it would have divided Germany's 45 million Catholics that it would have delayed or prevented Hitler's plans to launch World War II.

The three candidates for sainthood can claim many achievements. But only Pius XI, who is not a candidate, was willing to confront Adolf Hitler, no matter what the consequences. It is sad that this significant achievement has been condemned to the anonymity of the hidden stacks in his much beloved Vatican Library.

The writer is the founder and dean of the Simon Wiesenthal Center. He contributed this comment to the Los Angeles Times.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

One European's View

I am a European. I am a member of a multinational community — Europe — that probably for the first time in history puts me and the 300 million or so people living here at the center of its deliberations, debates and legislation. And I proclaim that I do not want to eat hormone-treated meat, no matter where it comes from, or genetically modified

foods. I do not want to fly in old planes, and I am happy that something is being done to make life less stressful for those who live near airports.

I care that the sick receive the medical treatment they need, that the elderly have enough comfort, and that the unemployed, too, can afford to have children.

And I am hesitant about bombing people, whether soldiers or civilians,

anywhere, just on the presumption that if I do not bomb them, they will bomb others. In fact, I am averse to the idea of killing anybody, no matter who they are or what they have done or could do.

I am sick to death of having American righteousness rammed daily down my throat. I am doubly sick to see the world slapped about and abused incessantly by the tantrums of that hysterical, hypocritical "superpower."

I am happy to eat bananas from the Caribbean, a part of the world with which we Europeans still have a huge debt for past ravages.

If Europe loses its "battle of the bananas" I will simply boycott Chiquita products and even old Boeings. And I exhort all my fellow Europeans to do the same.

JOHN HARDEN
Pisa, Italy.

BOOKS

THE SOUND OF TRUMPETS

By John Mortimer. 273 pages. \$23.95. Viking.

Reviewed by Jonathan Yardley

WITH this novel, John Mortimer completes his tart and amusing trilogy devoted to the life and career of Leslie Timms, Conservative member of Parliament and devoted apostle of his involuntarily retired leader, Margaret Thatcher. Now elevated to the House of Lords, Timms has time on his hands and (on behalf of his adored leader) revenge in his heart. How he achieves the latter is the chief business of the novel.

The precipitating event is the death, under peculiar if not outright suspicious circumstances, of Peter Millichip, MP. This mandates "a by-election in the constituency of Hartscombe and Worsfield South," home ground for Timms and, for more than half a century, ungenerally Tory ground. One would assume that Timms would reflexively support whomever his party put up for the seat, but one would assume incorrectly. Timms cannot forgive the spineless Tories who tossed Mrs. Thatcher and replaced her with (the spineless) John Major.

Among these is Tim Willock, a

former MP and now his party's choice for Hartscombe and Worsfield South. Willock, as Timms nicely puts it, is "that little traitor ... that damp, fawning, Europe-loving git whose true occupation is selling strings of onions off a French bicycle, that three-legged coward who stood with his dagger out during the assassination of the greatest Leader we ever had, his hand shaking and afraid to strike, that vacillating voice of the Prime Minister's movement for mediocrity."

Willock, in other words, simply will not do. So Timms puts himself at the service of the Labour candidate, a (spineless) young man named Terry Flinton, who mouths the Socialist line but whose ambitions and drive far transcend any limitations placed on them by ideology.

Matters are complicated by others in the cast: Paul Fogarty, warden at Skurfield Young Offenders' Institute, a soft-hearted fellow who is potentially compromised by his homosexuality; "Slippy" Johnson, one of his wiliest charges; Agnes Simcox, the lovely left-list at a local bookstore.

Timms, meanwhile, is giving Terry unsolicited but valuable advice and undermining Willock at every opportunity. Revenge being "one of the few remaining pleasures of old age," he throws

himself into the campaign with all the energy he can muster. Terry knows that he is "simply the instrument of Timms's revenge," but scruples and pride have nothing to do with the case when a seat in Parliament suddenly seems possible.

As Terry draws closer to victory and as the charms of Agnes continue to lure him, he wearies of "the narrow intensity" of his wife's politics: "There were political ideals, and there was the art of winning elections, and Kate seemed quite unable to keep the two conceptions separate in her mind. Timms was skilled in the art of winning elections and whatever his bizarre reason for offering it, his help might lead Terry to victory."

If Terry's reasoning seems to mirror or parallel that of Tony Blair and his exemplar, Bill Clinton, so be it. Mortimer is himself a gentleman of the left, but that has not blinded him to the shortcomings of his present generation of leaders. He seems to feel more than a twinge of regret at the passing of Timms and Thatcher and the many others who, however repellent he may have found their politics, offered such fat targets for satire. Opportunistic little Terry Flinton is a pygmy by contrast, and no one understands this more clearly than Mortimer.

Washington Post Service

CHESS

By Robert Byrne

THE Saintry Cup International Tournament in the Queen Victoria Building in Sydney was the strongest ever held in Australia. There were four grandmasters and six international masters in the 10-player round-robin competition, which ran from Jan. 19 to 30. Joel Benjamin, a Manhattan grandmaster, took the \$1,800 first prize with 7-2, ahead of the Australian grandmaster Ian Rogers, who scored 6-3 for second place and the Chinese grandmaster Zhang Zhong, who finished third with 5½-3½.

The "Saintry" in the tournament title does not refer to any string of code of moral behavior to be observed by the

participants but to a favorite animal of the noted horsebreeder Dato Tan of Malaysia, the sponsor.

Benjamin, who helped train L.B.M.'s formidable chess computer, Deep Blue, has long favored off-the-beaten-track openings and is still playing them, even after they have achieved considerable popularity. In the first round, he used one to defeat the Australian international master Guy West.

The unusual anti-Sicilian system with 3 c3 and 5 Bb3 has been grouped with the closed Sicilians, but in this game, Benjamin quickly opens the position with 7 d4. In sandwiching in 4 h3, he showed that he thought it was important enough to prevent black counterplay in the center with ...Bg4 to justify the loss of time.

The peculiar development with 5 Bb3 is based on the consideration that after 5...Bg7 6 Bc2 e5 7 d4, the white king bishop is on a better diagonal than it would be after 5 Be2.

An M. Ginzburg-G. Serper game in the 1998 Pan-American Tournament went 7...ed 8 ed O-O 9 O-O Nc6 10 d5 Nb4 11 Nc3 Nc2 12 Qc2 Re8, with reasonable play for Black.

After 10 O-O, West should have tried 10...Nc6, one thought being that 11 Be3 d5 12 Nc6 bc 13 ed Nd5 14 Bb4 Bb4 15 Qd4 Qb6 gives Black sufficient play.

After 17 Nh2, the d6 pawn was left as weak as before.

After 19...Rc8, there could have followed 20 Qd6, but after 20...Qg5 21 Qb6 Nf4 22 g3 Nh3, Benjamin judged the situation as unclear. Also, after 20 Bb3 Qh4, Benjamin decided that it was risky to venture 21 Qd6 and let West get some

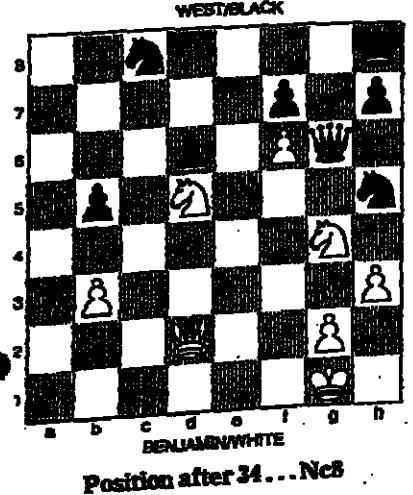
counterplay with 21...Nf4. Besides, his 21 Bb5 Bb5 22 Nd5 b5 23 ab 24 b3 Re6 25 f4 Nc6 26 Ng4! gave him strong control of the board.

After 28 f5!, the black kingside came under fire and the forced 28...gf 29 ef Re1 30 Re1 yielded Benjamin a grip on the important e line.

After 31...Kh8, Benjamin suddenly shifted his attack to the vulnerable c line with 32 Re1, threatening 33 Nb6 Re7 34 Qd6. On 32...Na7 33 f6 Qg6 34 Re8 Ne8 35 Qc1!, the black knight at c8 had to be lost: thus, 35...Qg8 36 Ne7 Ne7 37 f6 Qe8 38 Qc7 f5 39 Qd8 Ng7 40 Nf6 wins the queen.

After 40 Qf8, when Benjamin had reached the time control, West gave up rather than face 40...Qg6 41 Qd6 Ne6 42 Nd5 Qb1 43 Kh2 Qb3 44 Ne5 b4 45 Qe7 Ng5 46 Qf8.

SICILIAN DEFENSE			
White	Black	White	Black
Res/Time	West	Res/Time	West
1 e4	c5	21 Re5	Bd5
2 Nf3	d5	22 Nd5	b5
3 c3	Nf6	23 ab	ab
4 h3	g6	24 b3	Re8
5 Bb3	Bg7	25 f4	Nc8
6 Bc2	ed	26 Qd6	Qd8
7 d4	ed	27 Qc1	Qf8
8 ed	ed	28 f5	gf
9 Nf4	0-0	29 ef	Re1
10 f4	Re8	30 Re1	Qg7
11 Re1	ed	31 Qd2	Qb8
12 ed	b8	32 Re1	Na7
13 Nc3	Bb7	33 f6	Qg6
14 Bf4	Nh5	34 Re8	Nc8
15 Bb2	Ba5	35 Qc1	Na7
16 Nf2	Bb2	36 Qc7	b8
17 Nh2	Nc6	37 Qc7	Qe4
18 Qd2	Nc5	38 Nd5	Nf4
19 Re1	Re8	39 Qb8	Kh7
20 Bb3	Qh4	40 Qf8	Resigns



Position after 34...Nc8

which is Europe's leading financial institution?

which European country has the highest level of online banking?

how do Europeans rate your company?

who would you invest with?

who would you invest with?

who would you invest with?

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INTERNATIONAL



Javier Solana Madariaga, left, secretary-general of NATO, meeting with Mr. Clinton at the White House on Monday to discuss NATO's role in the Balkans. Mr. Solana said he feared a "human catastrophe" in Kosovo.

EU: Pressure to Act on Charges of Fraud and Mismanagement

Continued from Page 1

pursuing allegations of corruption in the EU's tourism officer for many years. The committee said it had not found any cases where any of the government-appointed commissioners had been directly and personally involved in fraudulent activities. Neither had any of them benefited personally, it said.

It found, however, "instances where commissioners or the commission as a whole bear responsibility for instances of fraud, irregularities or mismanagement in their services or areas of special responsibility."

It said commissioners should be aware of what's going on in their services and added, "No strategy of cover-up may ever be considered acceptable."

The report was critical enough of one commissioner—former Prime Minister Edith Cresson of France—that the European Parliament may initiate moves to have her ousted. Edith Mueller of the Greens party said, "My first demand is that Mrs. Cresson should resign."

The report said Mrs. Cresson "failed to act in response to known, serious and continuing irregularities over several years" in a youth training program for which she was responsible and that she was had displayed favoritism. She hired a dentist, Rene Berthelot, from the French town where she formerly served as mayor for undefined duties with the commission.

The report confirmed allegations in the Parliament and the press of cronyism, fictitious and fraudulent accounts, profound mismanagement and widespread lack of financial control. In many cases, it said, the commission had assumed new responsibilities without the resources to oversee them. Or it awarded contracts to outside agencies and failed to maintain any control.

The investigators said they found many instances where no irregularity or fraud could be discovered, but where commissioners "allowed, or even encouraged conduct, which, although not illegal per se, was not acceptable."

Questioned actions included the appointment of spouses, close friends or family members to plum jobs or contracts. For example it found that Joao de Deus Pinheiro had recruited his brother-in-law, and should not have done so even if he did not contravene the rules.

The committee blamed Mr. Santer personally for allowing a "state within a state" to develop in the awarding of commission security services to an outside contractor. It said the German commissioner Monika Wolf-Mathies had inappropriately hired someone for her personal staff. And it found that Manuel Marin of Spain erred in setting up a Mediterranean program, failing to monitor it properly and waiting too long—20 months—to act after irregularities were pointed out.

It drew a picture of a commission too concerned with theoretical political problems than with solid management. The commission had to confront a growing range of challenges, including enlargement of the EU, the "mad cow" scare, humanitarian crises and the problem of refugees, but it skirted its collective responsibility to ensure it had the staff and means to manage programs.

Paul van Buitenen, the commission auditor whose revelations led to a Parliament inquiry, said the report had vin-

dictated him. "I am a genuine whistleblower. I first addressed my hierarchy and received no personal gain."

In reply, he said, some commissioners had attacked his personal integrity, and he was still suspended on part pay. "I have been very lonely," he added. "I want my job back."

The dispute has forced the commission onto the defensive and given the Parliament a chance to raise its profile in advance of European elections in June. There was some irony in this because the assembly itself is noted for expense-account fiddling and is no stranger to financial excess. Its 1 billion-euro building in Brussels boasts a shower and toilet for each deputy, at a cost of 12,325 euros each when installed in 1997.

In January, the Socialist group headed off attacks on Mrs. Cresson and Mr. Marin, both Socialists, by proposing to dismiss the entire commission, which

the Parliament is entitled to do under EU treaties.

But the Parliament refrained from taking this ultimate step in exchange for an agreement to set up the investigating committee.

The Parliament does not have treaty rights to dismiss individual commissioners. Mr. Santer, who earlier defended the collegial and collective nature of the commission, now says that he expects fellow members of his team to accept the political consequences of the report, which could mean that Mrs. Cresson, for one, will come under pressure to resign. The commissioners are directly nominated by governments, which alone have the right to remove them as individuals.

Mrs. Green said in a recent interview that as a result of the Parliament's debate, "I don't think any government could stand against Mr. Santer if he said a commissioner had to go."

In a Panic, Ecuadorans Rush to Reopened Banks

QUITO, Ecuador — Thousands of customers anxious to withdraw what money they could lined up Monday at banks reopening across Ecuador after a weeklong shutdown ordered by the president to stave off economic meltdown.

In Quito and Guayaquil the panic was greatest among customers of Banco del Progreso after rumors that the bank was on the verge of folding.

The police patrolled the streets of most major cities as thousands of taxi drivers paraded traffic by taking to the streets to protest the austerity measures announced Thursday by President Jamil Mahuad.

Commuters were forced to walk to work as roadblocks prevented traffic flowing and bus drivers boycotted work in support of the taxi drivers.

Mr. Mahuad, a former mayor of Quito who took office seven months ago, ordered the banks to close last Monday amid massive withdrawals as investors lost confidence in the financial system.

The currency, the sucre, had lost a quarter its value in a week, and in recent months the government had been forced to take over seven of the 39 banks.

Finance Minister Ana Lucia Armijos urged Ecuadorians to ignore rumors of bank failures and not withdraw all the money they could.

The austerity measures have doubled gasoline prices and partly frozen bank

accounts for a year. Mr. Mahuad also proposed tax increases, cuts in the bloated bureaucracy and steps to speed up privatization of state companies.

Prices of basic goods have risen sharply in markets. Furious leftist unions have called for street protests and bank occupations Wednesday to force Mr. Mahuad to back down.

As he waited in line at the Banco Pichincha bank, Mario Ramirez, an accountant, said, "We all know something radical had to be done to save the economy, but now that it's here it's scary. What is going to happen to Ecuador?"

Congress, which can veto many of the measures, has 30 days to vote on the reforms. It was scheduled to begin debate Monday afternoon.

The legislature appeared likely to reject the measures after the powerful conservative Social Christian Party, which has supported many of Mr. Mahuad's proposals, called them "useless and inhuman."

Mr. Mahuad's centrist Popular Democracy party lacks a majority in Congress. Mr. Mahuad declared a 60-day state of emergency last week, which gives him the power to use troops to guard vital industries and banks in case of protests. A two-day national strike last week against austerity measures closed down stores and transportation.

(AP, AFP)

BRIEFLY

Bedouin 'Exodus' Follows Tribal Feud

ISRAELI-EGYPTIAN BORDER — Hundreds of bedouin fled into the Negev in Israel from the Sinai Peninsula in Egypt on Monday to escape a tribal feud, the Israeli Army said.

"It's like the Exodus," said Adva Loyd, spokeswoman for Israel's Ramat Hanegv regional council.

The army said upwards of 600 bedouin

had been stopped after breaching the border early on Monday and would receive humanitarian aid at a makeshift encampment while awaiting a solution.

The army said the bedouin, members of the Azazmeh tribe which has branches in both Israel and Egypt, had fled a dispute with another tribe. (Reuters)

Congo Rebel Vows To Continue Fight

KIGALI, Democratic Republic of the Congo — The rebel chief in Congo, Jean-Pierre Bemba, said Monday that he would keep up his fight to depose President Laurent Kabila despite the appointment of his father to a ministerial post.

"It doesn't change anything," Mr. Bemba said by satellite phone from a base in northern Congo. "It's their business and it doesn't concern me. I'm concerned with fighting Kabila and we are still continuing the struggle."

Mr. Kabila announced changes in his cabinet Sunday, appointing Bemba Salonga, a businessman, minister for economy and industry. (Reuters)

Canada and U.S. Feud on Magazines

OTTAWA — A bill before lawmakers here could move Canada and the United States closer to a trade war over Canada's efforts to protect its magazine industry.

The United States has threatened punitive tariffs on Canadian products if the bill becomes law. But even if the lower house passes the bill Monday — as is expected — it must still be considered by Canada's Senate.

The bill seeks to keep out so-called split-run magazines, or Canadian editions of U.S. magazines. Canadian publications say they are losing advertising to the split-runs, which have lower costs and can charge less for ads. U.S. and Canadian negotiators will meet again Friday. (AP)

Ethnic Albanians Ready for Peace

But Kosovars Are Told Signing Must Wait Until Serbs Agree to Pact

By Craig R. Whitney
New York Times Service

PARIS — Ethnic Albanian rebels fighting for independence for the Serbian province of Kosovo told France and Britain on Monday that they were ready to sign an accord worked out in talks last month to disband their army and would settle for autonomy, with a force of 28,000 NATO peacekeepers to guarantee the agreement.

But they were not asked to sign when the Kosovo peace conference reconvened in Paris on Monday. French officials said Monday night that international mediators were trying to find out if the Serbian side would also accept the agreement with some minor changes, leading a key negotiator for the Albanians to warn, "We agreed to a document that has already been completed."

"It's up to the mediators now to get Serb agreement to the document," said Vetton Surroi, an Albanian leader in the talks at Rambouillet that hammered out the accord last month. Kosovo Albanian agreement to sign could become null and void, advisers to the Albanian delegation said, if the international sponsors of the talks began proposing changes.

The Serbian side has accepted most of the political provisions of the agreement but has refused to consider NATO peacekeepers to enforce it, even though NATO has threatened President Slobodan Milosevic of Yugoslavia with heavy bombing if he does not agree.

The ethnic Albanians announced their acceptance of the package on Monday only under considerable pressure from the United States and after taking more than two weeks to discuss the terms in Kosovo with representatives of the 2 million people of the province.

"If you propose changes to the agreement the Kosovars have accepted, you will take what had been a victory for British and American diplomacy and turn it on its head," said Paul Williams, a legal adviser to the Kosovar Albanians.

Hubert Vedrine, France's foreign minister, and Robin Cook, the British foreign secretary, the co-chairmen of the peace conference, hailed the long-awaited acceptance of the terms by the Kosovar Albanians as a breakthrough.

"The Yugoslav delegates are now up against the wall," Mr. Vedrine said. "They must now act quickly to make up for lost time," Mr. Cook agreed at a

press conference in the French Foreign Ministry on the other side of the Seine from the talks, at which the two officials portrayed the Serbs as the main obstacle to an agreement.

But unlike President Bill Clinton, who said Monday that the allies would have little option but to carry out threats to bomb Serbian targets if Mr. Milosevic continued to order Serb attacks against civilians in Kosovo and to refuse to accept the peace agreement, Mr. Vedrine seemed to play down any threat.

"The NATO decisions remain in force," he said, "and everyone knows it. We have not as yet fixed a deadline. If there was one, it would be very short."

Then he added, in answer to a question, "There is a finalization of the negotiations, which were quite far advanced in Rambouillet, on the political side of the agreement. And that is taking place between the Yugoslav delegation and the mediators. Obviously, there is very little leeway."

French officials said the mediators were not discussing changes in the agreement with the Serbs, but only trying to sound them out about what changes they wanted, and trying to persuade them to accept the agreement in principle.

"We know nothing basic or really important can be changed," one official said. "But if they would agree, for example, to an 'international military force,' if not yet to a NATO force, then it would be difficult to justify bombing them."

Underlying the differences is the fragility of agreement in the six-nation "Contact Group" that is sponsoring the talks. Russia, which the allies would like to participate in the eventual peacekeeping force, is adamantly opposed to bombing the Serbs. The United States is ready to use the threat of bombing than France is, but would leave most of the peacekeeping to 14,000 French and British troops. Germany and Italy are somewhere between France and Britain.

And the Kosovars Albanians proved far less willing to accept allied security guarantees than the United States had thought. Secretary of State Madeleine Albright was unable to persuade them in Rambouillet last month to sign the agreement when it was finished.

Now, Mr. Williams said, "The Kosovars Albanians have given an unequivocal yes to the document." But, he added, "The Kosovars delegation was informed by the U.S. National Security

Council last week that there would be no changes to the agreement absent their consent," and none had been discussed with them yet, he said.

Their acceptance on Monday came in a letter to the co-chairmen from Hashim Thaqi, chairman of the Albanian delegation. "This delegation and I personally say 'yes' to this agreement," he wrote. "We would be honored to sign this agreement in your presence at a time and place of your choosing."

Mr. Vedrine and Mr. Cook said that in a meeting with the Albanians on Monday afternoon, they sought and received reassurances that this meant acceptance of both the peace terms and the NATO peacekeepers to enforce them.

European officials said they did not ask the Albanians to sign right away because they wanted flexibility in dealing with the Serbs to get them to accept the peace plan, an 82-page document with provisions for a constitution, an ethnically representative legislature, an independent police force and a small, independent NATO-led military force that would disarm the Kosovo Liberation Army and oversee the withdrawal of all but 1,500 Serbian border police from the province within a year.

After three years, it says, an international meeting would be convened to discuss a final settlement, taking into account "the will of the people" and the "opinions of relevant authorities."

Mr. Milosevic's special envoy, President Milan Milutinovic of Serbia, said after Monday's session of the talks, "We are still working on the political agreement. All those stories that the agreement is finished are false."

Serb Forces Continue Attacks

As the two sides sat down to new peace talks in Paris, Serb security forces poured rocket and mortar fire onto suspected rebel positions along a front in northern Kosovo on Monday, Reuters reported from Drvare, Serbia.

Smoke rose from burning houses in villages in the eastern foothills of Crkavica Mountain. There has been sporadic fighting along the Vucitina front, which now stretches at least 15 kilometers (nine miles) north to south, for about three weeks. But in the last three days government troops in the area, who now number in the hundreds, have stepped up pressure on separatist guerrillas of the ethnic Albanian KLA.

CHINA: U.S. Accusations Are Denounced by Prime Minister

Continued from Page 1

Still, mixing his trademark plain-spoken humor with a bit of wise-guy semantics, Mr. Zhu seemed to be gearing up for his trip to the United States, scheduled to begin April 8. The former mayor of Shanghai will be a formidable adversary to opponents of China in the United States. Indeed, Mr. Zhu is not unaccustomed to the task of selling China to uncertain buyers. In 1990, 13 months after China's crackdown on a student-led movement around Tiananmen Square, Mr. Zhu — as a Shanghai official — traveled to 12 cities in the United States in a trip hailed at the time as a major success.

Mr. Zhu acknowledged that he felt "an uneasy heart" at the prospect of facing criticism from across the American political spectrum over allegations that China in the late 1980s obtained information from the United States that allowed it to miniaturize its nuclear weapons — a major step forward in weapons development.

"Of course, it will not be an easy task to visit the United States," Mr. Zhu said.

"The media has predicted my forthcoming visit will not be successful. But I will go anyway. As you are angry, I must go there to let you vent your spleen."

"I don't think my visit to America will be entering a minefield, but for sure I do expect to encounter hostile or unfriendly feelings," he said.

However, Mr. Zhu characterized relations with the United States as "fairly good" and said in general that he expected a warm reception from the Clinton administration.

"Perhaps President Clinton and I will not necessarily hug each other," he quipped, recounting how he and President Boris Yeltsin of Russia had kissed during his visit last month to Russia, "but we could shake hands warmly and that would have the same meaning."

While Mr. Zhu said his goal in traveling to the United States was to "resume the good momentum" in U.S.-China relations, exactly what U.S. and Chinese officials hope to achieve during the summit is unclear.

Mr. Zhu was frank in his appraisal about the possibility that China and the United States could agree on terms for

China's entry into the World Trade Organization — the only potential area of breakthrough between the two countries. "Thirteen years have passed since China began its negotiations," he said. "Black hair has turned white. It's time to conclude such negotiations."

Mr. Zhu echoed a line common in China today — the problems between Washington and Beijing were caused by an "internal struggle" in the United States and that a small group of Americans were plotting to ruin U.S.-China ties. He reiterated China's opposition to talk in the United States about including parts of Asia under an anti-missile defense umbrella.

Speaking about allegations of Chinese espionage, the prime minister said that Americans were guilty of two "underestimations." The first was to underestimate the security systems at the Los Alamos National Laboratory. The nuclear weapons laboratory in New Mexico stands at the center of allegations about Chinese espionage. "As far as I know," he said, "the security is very tight."

Second, Mr. Zhu added, China's scientists are gifted enough to develop weapons. "China is fully capable of developing any military technology," he said, citing China's work on rockets, an atomic and hydrogen bomb and satellites. "It's only a matter of time."

"I think the question of China's theft of military secrets from the United States is a tale from the Arabian nights," he said.

Mr. Zhu also discussed on human rights. The prime minister said that during Mrs. Albright's visit to China earlier this month, he told her that when she was still in high school he was already risking his life, fighting for human rights against the Chinese Nationalist government. "She said, 'Is that so?' That showed she didn't quite agree with me."

MISSILES: Beijing's Nuclear Upgrade

Continued from Page 1

Soviet Union's mistake — a military force so expensive that it sped the bankruptcy of the nation. But China's modernization certainly could accelerate its ability to threaten its neighbors, and it could be sped up if China feels increasingly insecure.

"With or without the W-88 warheads, China today is able to threaten the United States," William Perry, the former defense secretary, said last week in Washington, just after returning from a visit to China where he spent time with Chinese military leaders and President Jiang Zemin. "You have to anticipate that ability will improve in coming years. They will evolve into a more global force. The challenge is how do we manage that?"

Western experts are not certain whether China, as part of its improvements, intends to place multiple warheads on its new missiles, as the United States and Soviet Union did. The W-88 technology could speed that transition.

"Even if they eventually put six or 10 warheads on their ICBMs, we will still have an overwhelming advantage," said Bates Gill, a specialist on the Chinese military at the Brookings Institution.

"But if it is achieved, it could complicate our calculations in the years ahead."

Judging from the public statements of Chinese officials, what is most likely to provoke an expansion of their nuclear forces is a decision by the United States to deploy anti-missile defenses around the American mainland and around Japan, Taiwan or South Korea. China's objections to the proposed missile shields have become more vociferous in recent months, including during Secretary of State Madeleine Albright's visit to Beijing a week ago.

In a January speech in Washington, China's senior arms control official, Sha Zukang, warned that if it erects a missile defense, the United States would force China to further upgrade its intercontinental nuclear forces.

A variety of missiles were developed and deployed over the 1970s and 1980s.

Many of those were later sold to other nations, starting a decade of tensions with Washington over proliferation. Bomb tests, initially above ground and then below, accelerated into the 1990s.

Intelligence gathered from one of these last tests, conducted just before China signed the treaty that bans underground testing in 1996, led the American agencies to suspect that China had obtained the W-88, and started the search for a spy at Los Alamos.

Since the early 1980s, with the introduction of a new generation of long-range ballistic missiles, two classes of China's nuclear weapons have been capable of reaching the continental United States.

None of the missiles is a precision weapon, but precision is not the goal.

In contrast to the strategy used by the Soviet Union and the United States, the key to China's nuclear doctrine has been what Western experts call a minimum deterrent — the ability, after a major attack by a nuclear adversary, to launch at least one or two missiles that could destroy a major city.

"The Chinese realized that the whole approach taken by the Soviets and the United States was an extraordinary waste of money," said Joseph Nye, the dean of the Kennedy School of government at Harvard and a former senior Defense Department and intelligence official.

Their view is that as long as they have a few invulnerable weapons, they have all they need."

UN Helicopter Found

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

MIAMI — A UN helicopter that was missing with 13 people on board was found crashed northeast of the Haitian capital, Port-au-Prince, on Monday, the U.S. Coast Guard said. Some of those on board survived the crash, it added. Earlier, the UN said those aboard included five Argentine police officers and an Argentine doctor serving with the United Nations in Haiti, six Russian crew members, and a U.S. executive. (Reuters, AP)

U.S. Warplanes Continue Attacks On Iraqi Zones

WASHINGTON — U.S. warplanes bombed air defense targets in the northern and southern no-fly zones of Iraq on Monday in response to Iraqi violations of the zones, the U.S. military said.

Such strikes have become a regular occurrence since Baghdad in December began actively opposing U.S. and British jets patrolling the Western-enforced zones, set up after the 1991 Gulf War to protect the Kurdish area in the north and Shiite Muslims in the south.

The U.S. Air Force said that F-15E jets based in Turkey detected Iraqi radar posing a threat to patrolling aircraft and dropped an unspecified number of laser-guided bombs on several artillery batteries northwest of the city of Mosul. Jets also attacked radar sites south of Baghdad.

All the jets returned safely to their bases. The Iraqi News Agency said later that one person was injured Monday when U.S. and British warplanes attacked "civil facilities and weapon sites" in the southern zone.

Fighting Resumes in Africa

Eritrea and Ethiopia, at War Again, Argue Over Peace

By Karl Vick
Washington Post Service

NAIROBI — Two weeks after Ethiopia declared "total victory" and Eritrea acknowledged a major defeat, fighting has resumed on the contested border between the Horn of Africa neighbors.

This time, in addition to the boundary, the two governments are arguing over the peace plan both have publicly agreed to.

Ethiopia accepted the framework hammered out by the Organization of African Unity back in November. Eritrea subscribed to the plan only after having lost the biggest chunk of contested ground, in heavy fighting on Badme plain that left thousands dead or wounded.

But instead of holding to the ceasefire demanded by the United Nations Security Council, the combatants have quarreled over details that diplomats failed to resolve in the nine-month prelude to the February fighting.

At issue are the smaller areas Eritrean forces continue to hold, including the Zalambessa and Tsorona front, where fighting resumed Sunday.

The peace plan calls for both sides to withdraw their forces from all contested areas, for independent observers to take the field and for technical experts to decide the boundary. Ethiopia, however, insists that Eritrea, which triggered the crisis last May by moving forces into the contested area, must pull out first.

Nor did the two governments agree on the intensity of the new fighting.

An Eritrean spokesman described it as "very intense," and claimed that Eritrea had destroyed 19 tanks and downed an Ethiopian MiG-23 fighter. Ethiopia called the claim "a lie" and described the fighting as moderate, after having denied Sunday that it was going on at all.

A diplomat who spoke from the Ethiopian capital, Addis Ababa, said Ethiopia was widely assumed to have started the battle, despite having "already paid a huge price in support from the international community" because of its earlier offensives.

"Someone could argue that if both sides would show a little grace, at least more casualties could be avoided," the diplomat said. "But these are not societies that disposed to magnanimity or grace, neither one of them."

Gaultier's Play on Tender Gender

By Suzy Menkes
International Herald Tribune

PARIS — In his and hers knitted suits, the bridal couple was racing the digital clock: 1983 as they stepped on the runway; half way down by 1994. The sound track from Stanley Kubrick's "2001: A Space Odyssey" rose to its crescendo. Five more paces. And then the applause, as the timepiece flickered 2000 to mark the turn of the millennium and the end of Jean Paul Gaultier's fall show.

The dawn of a new era has been the subtext of the international fashion season that closed in Paris on Sunday. But it was not the smattering of futuristic clothes — all polar white and gleaming silver — that caught the fashion moment, but those that expressed the modernity of now.

That is the brilliance of Gaultier, whose streamlined clothes, imbued with multicultural references and worn by couples of different sexes and races, was the stand-out show.

The designer touched base with everything that is currently cool: the small jacket and wide-flowing pants; shearing used as a second skin; the kimono wrap; the duster as both protective coat and comfort blanket. But, invigorated by his launch into haute couture, Gaultier raised all that sporty simplicity to a higher level of refinement.

Take the sweater — the show's motif — and imagine cabled Aran made in furry knitted strips, or knits with the Nordic patterns worked in sequins, which is a Gaultier signature.

Most houses have a problem in turning couture fantasies into ready-to-wear — but not Gaultier. Ideas from his January show included the nonchalant scarf with a hands-free pump at either end and an effortless reworking of the African theme, as roneau collars and hems, padded leather torques and braid-and-bandanna hairdos.

Draped dresses with belts slotted through one side were less successful — partly because they disrupted the tender gender story. Gaultier is a master of updated androgyny, making clothes that express the difference between the sexes in their textures or silhouettes, yet at the same time linking the masculine camel suit and woman's coat or his sparkling evening coat and her strapless dress.

"I thought about the year 2000 and I didn't want to do science fiction — I wanted to show the evolution of our society, because it is the mix of things that interests me," Gaultier said backstage after he took a standing ovation for an exceptional show.

French designers are at last capturing the multi-ethnicity of the modern City of Light. Yet, paradoxically, it was the Gallic sensitivity of Gilles Dufour's debut show for Balmain that was its charm.

"I don't want to be chauvinist — but I loved it because it looked so French," said the interior decorator Jacques Grange, of Balmain's tiny tweed jackets, Brigitte Bardot-inspired ruffled dresses and shapely knits with Argyle-pattern sleeves.

In his program notes Dufour evoked the Paris of the gravely voiced Edith Piaf, of Mistinguett and the music halls, of the sailor pants of Jean Marais and the delicate drawings of



Gaultier's rabbit-fur cabled sweaters with leather pants and sparkle skirt.

Christian Berard. But this wasn't a kitsch show reeking of Gauloises.

Instead, Dufour stirred in those elements as casually as he mixed the clothes: a jacket in herringbone tweed with a sensuous, calf-length silky jersey dress; in velvet over a fluffy feathered mini; or with slim leather skirt traced with flower embroidery. By the show's end, the body-hugging shearing tops in dusty colors took ball skirts as their partners, turning Balmain's signature "Jolie Madame" into a skittish young mademoiselle.

The light handed, youthful touches included rivalets of fine silver chains, leather thongs studded with tiny diamonds and breezy blue cotton shirts with white collars.

Inevitably, there were echoes of Dufour's 15 years at Chanel, both in the way jackets were used as a wardrobe's building block and in the shredded tulle evening dresses that

could have been edited out. But in the exuberant knitwear, the Balmain show was in a class of its own. Whether it was sexy cardigans fastened like soft corsets with hooks and eyes or those Argyle-patterned wrists, which emerged from tweed jackets scattered with dew drop sparkles, the knits caught a Parisian elegance in a youthful, modern way.

Was it too young for potential customers — like the graceful Catherine Deneuve, sitting front row?

"It's for me and for my daughter — there's something for us both," the actress said, as Dufour took his bow with Claudia Schiffer who had returned to the runway to model for Balmain.

Another debut collection came from Nathalie Gervais, a Canadian designer whose task is to capture the feminine essence of Nina Ricci in a modern way. With tendrils of tumbling curls, a puff of full sleeve on coat or sweater, yet flat boots, Gervais combined the sweet and the sporty. Fresh was a kimono jacket that flowed into wide, soft pants and a gilded sweater and dirndl skirt, which was a pretty, modern way to dress for evening.

The smell of fresh grass from a meadow-sweet runway symbolized a new freshness at Christian Lacroix's show, where salon chic had given way to something more relaxed and whimsical.

The models stepped out in their dainty sandals, a different color ribbon for each foot, with trim coats embellished with fur, over easy dresses shimmering with paillettes. Banned were fancy little suits and complex drapes and cuts. Instead, all the imagination was sunk into the fabrics: antiqued and embossed leather, hand-woven tweedy knits, appliqued bands of curly lamb, vibrant prints of birds and leaves. This remix of embellishment with simplicity made the most successful transition yet of Lacroix's spirit into genuine ready-to-wear.

THE signatures were still there: the flourishes of decoration as a chenille fringe dangled from a fuchsia dress or jet paillettes ran down pants that went with a monastic hooded cape top. Grave, sweet-faced models with simple hairstyles played against vivid colors like orange and turquoise and the paillettes, which sometimes gave a hallucinatory, three-dimensional effect. The most intriguing evening outfits displayed loops of multicolored threads that were overlaid with tulle. It all added up to a relaxed show with a sense of joie de vivre, that sent the designer himself running down the grassy runway to take his bow.

Original designers are islands of creativity in a sea of bland clothing, but no single fashion has emerged from the first Paris shows for the year 2000. Perhaps futurism was already discounted when the 1960s creators first envisaged sportswear, pants, zippered jackets and running shoes. The fall season closed with Pierre Cardin's collection, where the designer Sergio Altieri had introduced techno fabrics like laminated jersey, played with pleats, wind-blown or airy, and flashed the collection with bright red. The last sight of the season was a wedding dress made from 44 meters of pearly sheer fabric spinning like a satellite into the future.

Split Personality From Valentino

By Suzy Menkes
International Herald Tribune

PARIS — Sex may be slipping out of fashion, but some designers are still prepared to give it a whirl. And if you want lingerie looks finessed into high fashion, Valentino is still dressing the sensual woman. She may need more than a sweater over her lace-trimmed, satin hot pants. But even skirts were side-split and pants were jeans-cut with flashy scarlet stitching.

Yet this was an ambivalent collection, where discreet, sporty suits, elegant dresses shaped with darts and double-faced coats with embroidery on the inside co-existed with boudoir looks like a racy apron-bib top. It made for a disparate show with some strong pieces. Cute embroidered purses, belts with mineral stones and boots worn with everything were a binding folkloric factor.

Herve Leger took the curvy female body and applied to it some complex fashion geometry, which at its best had a linear dynamic and always works for his stretch bands.

Vivienne Westwood seems so obsessed with sex that every outfit was curved, skirts flipped up at the hem, sweaters clinging and dresses lapping the bosom. All this heroic femininity, fleshed out with Christmas tree baubles, could use a dose of Westwood's now-forgotten wit.



Valentino's sweater, beaded sash and hot pants.



Balmain's Gilles Dufour, with finale dresses, taking his runway bow.

At left, Lacroix's basket-weave coat with fox trim over patterned jersey top and giant-flower-print skirt.

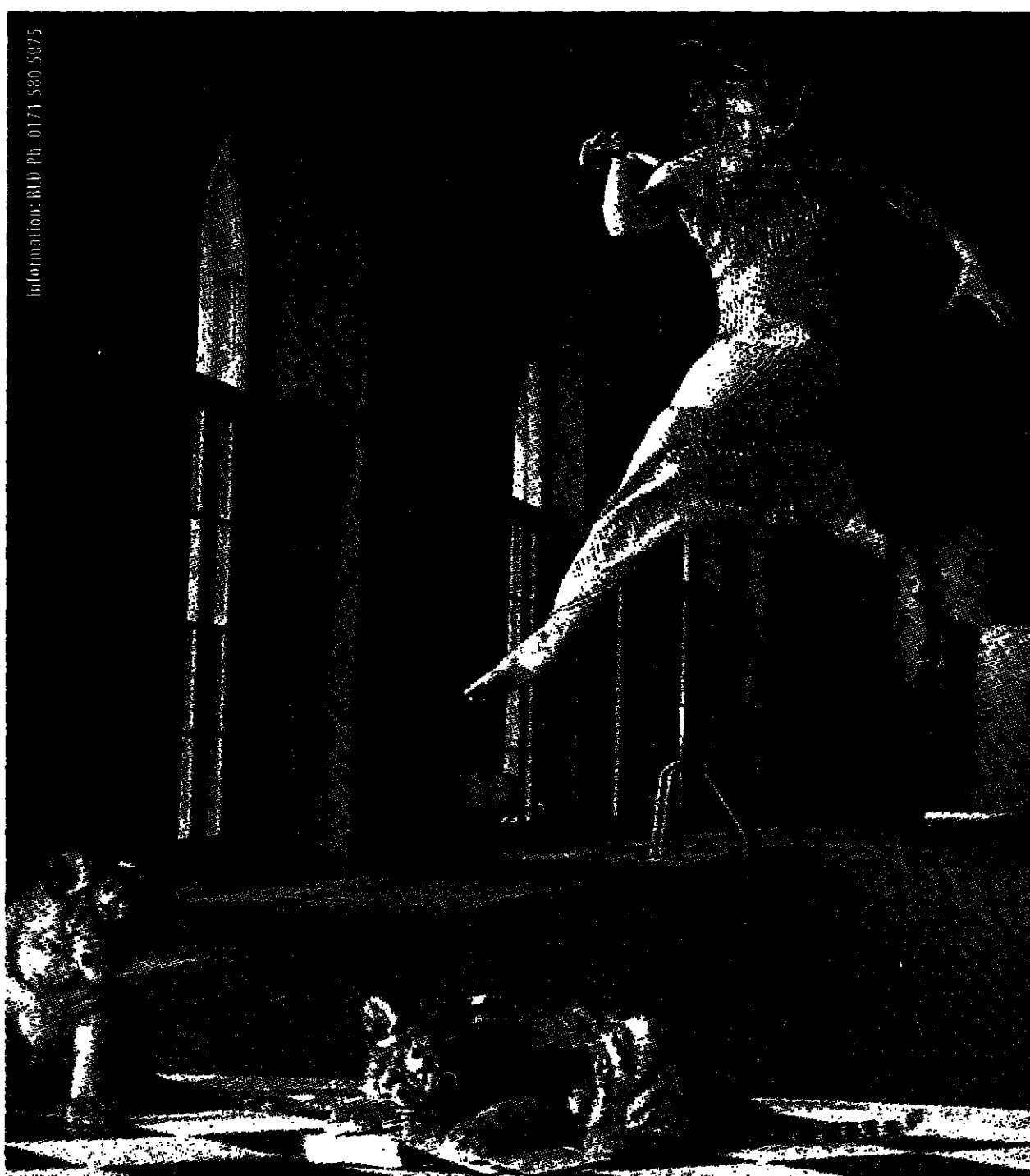


La Vie en Rose

International Herald Tribune

PARIS — It was a witty homage to the 1980s — and a naughty parody of Yves Saint Laurent, whose succession has been a story at the shows. But you couldn't help smiling at Jeremy Scott's fashion take on "La Vie en Rose." Out in only rose pink came everything from a fur coat through a sweat dress to a real live shocking-pink dyed poodle.

Back from the 1980s, Scott, 25, dragged the angular shoulder pad and the pouf dress raggedly perforated. And don't write off the maverick, gold-toothed designer. He has just signed with Trussardi as consultant for the jeans line. — Suzy Menkes



Style is not a size... it's an Attitude! **MARINA RINALDI**

Sizes 14-28

London: Harrods-Selfridges • Manchester: Selfridges • Dublin: Brown Thomas

NYSE**Monday's 4 P.M. Close**

The 2,300 most traded stocks of the day.
 Nationwide prices not reflecting late trades elsewhere.
 The Associated Press.

-12 Month Div Yld PE 52s 100% High Low Latest Cmo

This image shows a full-page scan of a financial newspaper, specifically the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE) section. The page is densely packed with financial data, including stock prices, volume, and market indices. A central advertisement for Lombard Odier, a Swiss asset management firm, is prominently displayed in the middle. The ad features the word "discretion" in a large, elegant font, followed by the tagline "in the art of asset management" and a silhouette of a person in a suit. Below the silhouette, the firm's name "Lombard Odier" and its address "11, rue de la Corratierie - 1204 Geneva - Switzerland" are listed. The background of the ad is a dark, textured pattern. The overall layout is typical of a financial newspaper, with multiple columns of text and a clear hierarchy of information.

Model Request for

Convergence Point
for Latin America

References

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CURRENT

Continued on Page 14

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No EU Rescue for Duty-Free Business

By Barry James
International Herald Tribune

BRUSSELS — Strong opposition from Denmark and other countries Friday blocked a British move, backed by France and Germany, to relieve duty-free sales in Europe, which are due to end in June.

All governments had agreed in 1991 to end such sales aboard ferries and at airports, later allowing the industry a seven-year transition period to wind down the business. Instead, the duty-free industry has massively increased sales, and now argues that the loss of the more than

6 billion-euro (\$6.5 billion) business will cause up to 140,000 job losses.

Thousands of French workers Monday blockaded the Channel Tunnel and the ferry port of Calais, stopping train traffic in the tunnel for several hours, to protest the planned abolition.

The European Commission, the EU's executive body, argues that duty-free sales are an anomaly in a single market. Sales to travelers in or out of the EU would not be affected.

Mario Monti, the commissioner in charge of taxation and the single

market, said the industry costs national treasuries about 2 billion euros a year in lost taxes, leaving taxpayers to make up the difference.

The tax-free sales, predominantly of tobacco, alcohol and perfumes, "must end and will end," Mr. Monti said. "We must end a situation where ordinary European citizens are paying for other people's duty-free and the quite considerable profits of the duty-free firms."

The International Duty Free Confederation, which is heavily financed by the tobacco industry, has

mounted a huge lobbying campaign in Brussels and the capitals of EU countries to try to stave off abolition.

But Denmark, which supports the commission's opinion, received enough support among European finance ministers meeting here to be able to block plans to allow a further reprieve of up to two-and-a-half years, as proposed by Germany.

The finance ministers passed the problem to the EU's committee of permanent representatives of the

See DUTY, Page 13

Fleet Agrees To Acquire BankBoston

By Timothy L. O'Brien
New York Times Service

NEW YORK — Fleet Financial Group plans to acquire BankBoston Corp. for \$16 billion in a deal that would create the eighth-largest bank in the United States and the preeminent bank in New England.

The new bank, which is to be based in Boston and be called FleetBoston Corp., would have such a stranglehold on consumer accounts in states such as Massachusetts, according to lawyers specializing in banking law, that federal antitrust law will require sales of bank branches.

The transaction, announced late Sunday, will probably involve a significant number of job cuts and layoffs, anywhere from 2,500 to 5,000, according to people involved in the deal, though the exact number could not be determined. Fleet and BankBoston employ a total of about 50,000 people.

Assuming shareholders and regulators approve the deal, the merged bank would still not be big enough to join the ranks of American banking titans that have been created by a wave of mergers. With about \$178 billion in assets, the new FleetBoston would remain a quarter to half the size of Citigroup Inc., BankAmerica Corp., Chase Manhattan Corp. and Bank One Corp. That raises the possibility that the new bank could be involved in another big merger in the next few years.

The boards of both banks approved the deal after meeting Sunday afternoon.

Fleet is to exchange 1.1844 of its shares for each BankBoston share, valuing BankBoston at about \$53 a share, or about a 15 percent premium above BankBoston's closing price Friday of \$46.9375 a share.

BankBoston's shares closed at \$46.5625, off 37.5 cents, while Fleet's shares fell \$3.3125 to finish trading at \$41.4375.

BankBoston shares have been trading well below their 52-week high of \$59.0625 because of investor concern about the bank's heavy exposure to volatile economies in Brazil and Argentina. BankBoston executives have repeatedly noted that the bank turned in a record performance in Latin America last year and said they expect to make a substantial profit in the region again this year.

Convergence Plea For Latin America

By Alan Friedman
International Herald Tribune

The managing director of the International Monetary Fund on Monday called for Latin American countries to work toward closer economic integration on the basis of the European Union model, but stopped short of recommending a single currency.

In a speech opening the annual meetings of the Inter-American Development Bank in Lima, Michel Camdessus told finance ministers from 46 countries that "the convergence and regional integration of your economies is essential to the strengthening of your countries and their ability to adapt to the new international financial environment."

Mr. Camdessus conceded that closer economic integration did not require the adoption of a single currency for Latin America along the lines of the introduction of the euro by 11 EU member nations. But he stressed that "regardless of the final monetary option chosen," the EU model had proven the benefits of closely aligned economic policy inside a geographic region. The IMF chief said "this same route is open to all of your countries as well."

Mr. Camdessus' call for a more coordinated set of economic policies throughout Latin America was endorsed by Enrique Iglesias, president of the IDB, by President Jacques Chirac of France and by Lawrence Summers, the U.S. deputy Treasury secretary. But all three also stopped short of recommending a single currency for the region.

Mr. Chirac said that regional integration "is the way of the future, and the only one." Mr. Summers agreed on the importance of convergence, but repeated for the second time Monday that Washington had serious reservations about Argentina's proposal that it and other countries adopt the U.S. dollar as their own currencies.

"The allure of stability in this region is strong," Mr. Summers said. But he added that the idea of using the dollar

See IDB, Page 12

Nissan Gets Boost From Renault

Its Shares Soar 13% Amid Signs That an Alliance Is Near

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

TOKYO — Shares of Nissan Motor Co. soared Monday, but Renault SA's stock fell in Paris trading amid indications that the companies were close to an alliance in which Renault would buy a one-third stake in Nissan, Japan's second-largest carmaker.

After talks over the weekend with Renault in Paris, Nissan's president, Yoshikazu Hanawa, told the Nihon Keizai newspaper that an accord could be outlined to Renault's board as early as Tuesday.

But Renault cautioned that while it was talking about a deal to buy a stake in Nissan, it had yet to make a firm offer. A representative of the automaker said the board meeting had been scheduled some time ago.

Nissan is seeking a partner to help it cut its debt of 4.3 trillion yen (\$36 billion).

Renault wants to expand in the United States and Asia and cut costs. A Nissan stake would give the maker of Twingo and Clio cars access to markets where it has little presence.

A one-third stake would be enough to give Renault veto power over Nissan decisions, giving it effective control.

"The biggest issue for Renault is, how much debt are they going to assume," said Greg Melich, an auto

analyst with Morgan Stanley Dean Witter in London.

Renault shares closed in Paris at 35.40 euros (\$38.70), down 43 cents, while Nissan shares jumped 53 yen, or 13 percent, to 454 in Tokyo.

Yoshiro Yamamoto, president of Fuji Bank Ltd., Nissan's second-biggest shareholder, said at a news conference that the chances of a deal between Renault and Nissan were "high."

But not all the board members of Europe's sixth-largest carmaker have agreed to the alliance, Mr. Hanawa was quoted as saying.

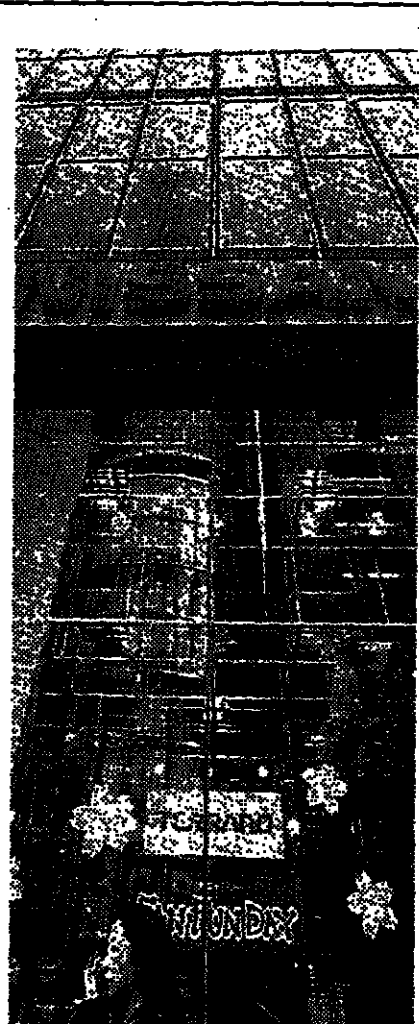
If a deal with Renault falls through, Ford Motor Co. may be waiting in the wings.

The American company is also seriously considering a stake of 33 percent or more in Nissan, The Wall Street Journal reported, quoting unidentified people it said were familiar with the situation.

A Ford spokesman declined to comment. Ford already owns one-third of Mazda Motor Co. and has said it would consider increasing its stake in that company, which is the fifth-largest automobile maker in Japan.

The two jointly develop and build passenger cars and jointly build a minivan in the United States.

(Bloomberg, Reuters)



A pedestrian walking past the Nissan gallery showroom in Tokyo.



Nissan's president, Yoshikazu Hanawa, above, met with Renault's chairman, Louis Schweitzer, below.



Thinking Ahead / Commentary

Club Surveys the Global Economy

Clearly No Cabal, the Trilateral Commission Holds a Forum of Ideas

By Reginald Dale
International Herald Tribune

WASHINGTON — To be accused by both the right and the left of plotting world domination is a rare, if not a way gratifying, distinction. But it is one that has been regularly conferred on the Trilateral Commission, a group of influential internationalists from North America, Europe and Japan — over the past quarter-century.

The main feature of conspiracy theories, of course, is that they are usually wrong. The commission is more like an exclusive debating club for business, academic and political leaders than a sinister cabal attempting to subvert elected governments.

And the charges against it seem even more ludicrous because the kind of enlightened, free-market outlook espoused by most of its members is very much in the mainstream of current well-informed thinking about the global economy.

A three-day meeting of the commission in Washington that ended Monday certainly illuminated the concerns now occupying many top policy experts and corporate heavyweights in the leading industrial countries.

Europeans and some Asians at the conference complained sharply that Washington increasingly expected its allies to play by the rules of the global game yet considered itself free to flout those rules to protect American interests.

As is common in such gatherings nowadays, some European participants leveled charges of American arrogance. There were well-founded fears that economic conflicts, such as the shameful U.S.-European dispute over trade in bananas, were endangering trans-Atlantic relations and the future of the World Trade Organization. And there were widespread concerns over leadership vacuums and the growing tendency to look inward in all three regions.

While many Europeans were dismayed by the U.S. Congress's lack of interest in foreign affairs, a number of the American participants detected some recent improvement.

But hardly anybody challenged a main underlying theme of the conference: that the United States had successfully adapted itself to the global economy well ahead of the other two areas and it was now up to Europe and Asia to follow suit.

Most of the commission espouses an enlightened, free-market outlook.

There was little disagreement about the tasks facing the two lagging regions: Asia must get rid of "crony capitalism," improve social safety nets and put into place further political reforms; Europe must become more competitive by deregulating labor markets and streamlining burdensome welfare systems.

In both cases that will mean moving closer toward American entrepreneurial capitalism — not simply because it is American but because the U.S. system has shown itself best able to cope with the demands of the modern world economy. That does not mean that everyone else must slavishly copy America; there will still be room for social and cultural differences.

In American eyes, however, the Asian crisis has made the task of restructuring even more urgent. There are limits, the Americans say, to how long they can hold off a global recession single-handedly. But without structural reforms, Europe and Asia will not grow fast enough to share the burden.

There are signs of recovery in Asia, even in Japan. Europe is at least still growing, even if it looks fragile. But two big questions remain unanswered: Will the arrival of the euro push Europe to move faster toward structural reform by increasing competition, particularly in France and Germany, which need it most? And can the coming Asian recovery be sustained?

Most conference participants were inclined to believe the euro would help to promote internal reform, even if externally it would only slowly become a world currency.

Some Asians, however, expressed doubts about their region. The question, as a prominent Asian put it, is whether the Asian recovery will be "quantitative or qualitative." If Asian countries now undertake serious reforms, they will ensure a lasting, qualitative improvement in their economies. If they sweep their problems under the carpet, once growth resumes, they may be hit by another crisis in five years — a lesson, several people suggested, that also applies to Japan.

Nobody, however, even in private corners, appeared to be plotting to force these solutions on the world. If this frank and intelligent debate was a conspiracy, one can only conclude that the world needs more conspirators.

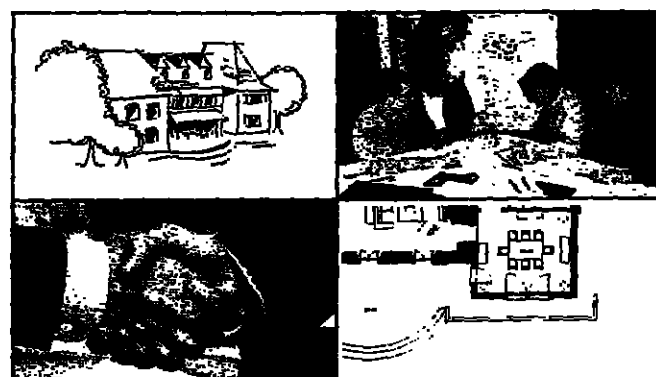
E-mail address: Thinkahead@tln.com

CURRENCY RATES

Cross Rates									
March 15									
	\$	£	SF	Yen	CS	Deno	Groat	Swede	
London (a)	1.6217	—	2.2726	191.446	2.4794	11.007	476.26	13.1991	
New York (b)	—	1.6233	1.4643	117.715	1.5263	4.783	294.17	8.899	
Tokyo	119.30	194.42	81.44	—	78.33	17.51	N.Q.	14.72	
Toronto	1.5263	2.4787	1.0415	1.2957	—	0.2245	0.5201	0.1872	
Zurich	1.4655	2.3774	—	1.2431	0.9992	21.544	0.4982	0.1797	
One euro	1.0949	0.6729	1.401	128.85	1.6712	7.4325	321.40	8.8785	
One SDR	1.3661	0.8348	2.0004	163.407	2.0816	9.2841	401.97	11.0718	
Interbank rates excluding commissions.									
a. To buy one pound: £. To buy one dollar: *Per 100 N.Q.: not quoted N.A.: not available.									
SDR: Special Drawing Rights of the IMF.									
Source: Bank of Tokyo-Mitsubishi (Tokyo); Royal Bank of Canada (Toronto); Banque de France (Paris); IMF (SDR). Other data from Reuters.									
Euro Values									
Fixed rates of the EMU member countries, for one euro:									
Austrian schilling	13.7603	Irish punt	7.87564						
Belgian franc	40.3399	Italian lire	1,936.27						
Dutch guilder	6.55953	Spanish peseta	166.386						
French franc	6.55957	Portug. escudo	200.482						
German mark	1.93633								

Private Banking International

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THE AMERICAS



Very briefly:

- El Paso Energy Corp. agreed to buy Sonat Inc. for about \$6 billion in stock and assumed debt.
- Ciena Corp. agreed to buy privately held Lighter Networks Inc. and Omnia Communications Inc. for about \$980 million in stock.
- Boeing Co. plans to cut 6,700 more jobs from its commercial aircraft division by the end of the year, the Wall Street Journal reported. The division, currently employing 111,400 workers, should be down to 93,700 by this December, rather than the previously targeted figure of 100,400, the newspaper said.
- Alberta Energy Co. offered to buy Pacalta Resources Ltd. for 748 million Canadian dollars (\$490.8 million) in stock and debt to expand its presence in South America.
- Chancellor Media Corp., soon to be the largest owner of U.S. radio stations, said it ended an agreement to buy Lin Television Corp. because investors balked, and said Thomas Hicks would take the helm as its new chief executive.
- United Technologies Corp. is close to an agreement to sell its auto-parts unit to Blackstone Group for about \$2.25 billion, the Financial Times reported.

Weekend Box Office

LOS ANGELES — "Analyse This" dominated the U.S. box office over the weekend, with a gross of \$15.7 million. Following are the Top 10 money-makers, based on Saturday's ticket sales and estimated sales for Sunday.

Rank	Title	Box Office
1	Analyze This	\$15.7 million
2	The Road to Car 2	\$7.4 million
3	Clueless	\$5.2 million
4	The Corruptor	\$5.2 million
5	Baywatch	\$5.2 million
6	The Deep End of the Ocean	\$5.2 million
7	Wing Commander	\$5.2 million
8	The Other Sister	\$5.2 million
9	Eight Mile	\$5.2 million
10	October Sky	\$5.2 million

U. S. STOCK MARKET DIARY

Index	Monday, March 15	Most Active
Dow Jones	9858.77	NYSE
S&P 500	1387.26	Nasdaq
S&P 100	655.48	AMEX
NYSE	615.22	Trading Activity
Nasdaq	2431.45	Market Sales
AMEX	728.91	Dividends
Dow Jones Bond	104.65	U.S. Stock Tables Explained
20 Bonds	104.65	
10 Industrials	104.65	

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Guess Who's Back? Former Junk Bond King Just Won't Quit

By Andrew Pollack
New York Times Service

BEVERLY HILLS, California — There, on one stage at a conference, sat some of the best economic minds in the nation — Gary Becker, Nobel laureate; Merton Miller, Nobel laureate; Douglas North, Nobel laureate; Myron S. Scholes, Nobel laureate; and Michael R. Milken, fallen financier.

Having the dethroned junk bond king rub shoulders with Nobel laureates was not all that incongruous. As a brochure from the conference described Mr. Milken as "arguably the most important financial thinker of the century."

Besides, it was Mr. Milken's party, and he could crow if he wanted to.

The Milken Institute Global Conference, which ended on Friday, is part of the resurrection of Mr. Milken. Since leaving prison in 1993, he has enlisted his personal fortune and wide network of contacts in an effort to become an influential force in medical research, education and economics.

His Association for the Cure of Cancer of the Prostate, formed after

he was diagnosed with the disease, has given away \$65 million, much of it his own money, making the organization the leading private sponsor of prostate cancer research.

His Milken Family Foundation, run with his brother, Lowell, makes awards of \$25,000 each to about 150 teachers annually, part of an effort to improve education.

And Mr. Milken, 52, barred from securities trading for life, is rebuilding a business empire in education. His Knowledge Universe has quietly acquired companies in businesses ranging from day-care centers to computer training, with combined revenues of \$1.2 billion last year. One unit, a corporate consulting firm called Nestor Enterprises, has filed to go public.

The economic conference was sponsored by the Milken Institute, his small research center. In addition to the Nobel laureates, speakers included Governor Gray Davis of California, Mayor Richard H. Riordan of Los Angeles and former Representative Lee H. Hamilton of Indiana. Reggie Jackson, the former baseball star whom Mr. Milken enlisted to spread cancer awareness among minorities,

sat by Mr. Milken's side at the opening dinner.

Perhaps it was only a coincidence that the conference was at the Beverly Hilton Hotel, site in the 1980s of several of Mr. Milken's extravagant junk bond conferences, known as Predators' Balls. In a coincidence of timing, however, the conference took place the week when the largest and most celebrated deal Mr. Milken financed, the 1989 buyout that created RJR Nabisco, was undone by RJR's decision to break itself apart.

Those at the conference seemed to care little about his past. Supporters said Mr. Milken was active in philanthropy long before he went to jail and spending too much time and money for it to be a charity. Besides, they ask, what's wrong with trying to improve one's image by doing good?

Mr. Milken declined to be interviewed. But in a brief conversation he discouraged any interpretation of his motives, saying of the conference, "It is what it is," and adding, "It takes time for people to not be emotional about things."

Mr. Milken served two years of a 10-year sentence for violating securities laws. After leaving prison

in 1992, he was diagnosed with cancer and given 12 months to 18 months to live. The cancer, though, is now in remission, and Mr. Milken is vigorous. But his sense of having limited time has made him as driven and obsessive as he was in his days at Drexel Burnham. He has staff meetings at 6:30 A.M. and calls aides late at night when ideas occur to him, which is all the time.

But the cancer has also made Mr. Milken stop to smell the roses, literally. Besides conventional treatment, he has turned to alternatives like meditation and aromatherapy, and has had flowers planted around his house, which he smells to bolster his immune system.

Founded in 1991, the Milken Institute became a haven for young academics to do scholarly but obscure research. In 1997, Donald Straszheim, then chief economist at Merrill Lynch, was brought in as president, expanding the staff and shifting toward work of interest to businessmen and politicians rather than academics.

This second annual Global Conference is part of that effort. However, most of the institute's young researchers were dismissed or have quit, complaining that se-



Mr. Milken has given millions of dollars for cancer research.

rious scholarly work was valued less than was preparing slides for the conference.

"Mike has always been very unhappy with the institute, and it has never accomplished what he wants," a former researcher said.

Surging Yen Demand Drives Dollar Lower

Bloomberg News

NEW YORK — The dollar fell against the yen Monday as surging stocks and rising bond yields in Japan increased demand for the currency to buy Japanese securities.

Investors, especially in the U.S., have kept their yen positions small

frances from 1.4660 francs; the pound fell to \$1.6233 from \$1.6325.

As Japanese yields rise and stocks look more promising, domestic investors could bring home funds for the bigger returns, analysts said. They are already repatriating profit from abroad to improve the books before the financial year ends on March 31.

Too much strength in the yen could scotch any inkling of recovery in Japan's economy, which is suffering its worst recession since World War II. Exports are one of the country's few sources of growth, and a strong yen makes exports more expensive on world markets.

Japan's deputy finance minister, Koji Tanami, said stability in the dollar-yen rate was crucial to the economy and that Japan "will keep a close watch on the foreign-exchange rate." He said areas such as domestic demand as well as the trade surplus were affected by the exchange rate.

Du Pont to Buy Pioneer Hi-Bred

Bloomberg News

WILMINGTON — Du Pont Co. agreed Monday to buy the 80 percent of Pioneer Hi-Bred International Inc. that it does not already own for about \$400 million in cash and stock to increase its agricultural business.

The transaction is valued at about \$7.7 billion based on the shares outstanding that Du Pont does not now hold. Du Pont said Du Pont bought a 20 percent stake in Pioneer Hi-Bred, the world's largest seed-corn company in 1997.

Gaining control of Pioneer puts Du Pont in a position to catch up with Monsanto Co., whose Roundup herbicide has been gaining market share at the expense of Du Pont's agricultural products business. "This clearly forms a powerhouse on the agricultural side that can compete with Monsanto," said Frank Mitsch, analyst with Deutsche Bank Securities.

Acquisitions Lift Dow As It Chases Milestone

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

NEW YORK — The Dow Jones industrial average resumed its advance toward the 10,000 mark on Monday as a new round of corporate mergers sent stock prices higher.

The Dow Jones industrial average closed at 9,958.77, up 82.42 points

from its close on Friday. The index of blue-chip stocks has flirted with 10,000 in recent sessions, coming within less than 30 points of that milestone Monday, its highest surge yet, before giving ground.

"The market appears to be tipping toward Dow 10,000," said Alan Ackerman, a senior vice president at Fidelity Investments. "But we could reach that mark at any time."

Broader market indexes were also higher. The Standard & Poor's 500 index gained 12.67 points to 1,307.26, while the Nasdaq composite rose 49.92 to 2,431.45. On the

New York Stock Exchange, the number of advancing issues outnumbered decliners by a 15-to-14 ratio.

The \$16 billion acquisition of BankBoston by Fleet Financial Group added some punch to the financial services sector. And Du Pont said it would pay \$7.7 billion to acquire the 80 percent of Pioneer Hi-Bred International that it does not already own.

BankBoston's shares closed at 46 9/16, down 3/4, while Fleet's shares fell 3 5/16 to close at 41 7/16.

Du Pont shares fell 7/16 to 56 1/16, while Pioneer climbed 4 1/16 to 38 3/4.

UAL surged 6 7/16 to 73 1/2 after the world's largest airline company said it expected first-quarter earnings to exceed expectations because of strong domestic business. Other airline stocks also rose.

The benchmark 30-year Treasury bond rose 4/32 to 96 4/32. The yield fell to 5.51 percent from 5.52 percent. (AP, Bloomberg)

INTERNATIONAL FUTURES

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IDB: \$9 Billion to Be Borrowed

Continued from Page 11

"would be hugely consequential" and should be "considered in a careful and extended manner" because such a move would mean that interest rate policy would be set by Washington.

Mr. Chirac, in remarks opening the annual meetings, called for the cancellation of debts held by the poorest Latin American countries, and described the region's debt burden as "unbearable."

Mr. Summers welcomed the French proposal as "one of the sorts of technical suggestions" that could be discussed. But he stressed that countries seeking debt relief needed to prove they were "making efforts to strengthen and reform their economies."

EUROPE

Eurotunnel Posts a Profit

Special Gain Lifts Results After Operating Loss

LONDON — Eurotunnel, operator of the rail tunnel under the English Channel, said Monday it posted its first full-year profit in 1998, thanks to one-time gains from a debt restructuring and a leap in revenue as it recovered from a fire in the tunnel two years earlier.

Net profit in 1998 was £64 million (\$104.5 million), after an exceptional gain of £279 million from the restructuring of £9 billion of debt.

Stripping out the one-time gain, the company, which went public in 1997, had a loss of £215 million, which compared with a loss of £611 million in 1997.

Eurotunnel's chairman, Patrick Ponsolle, told reporters in Paris that the company was on track to meet 1999 forecasts of £205 million to £210 million of operating profit, compared with £184 million in 1998 and £57 million in 1997.

"We are confident that we can meet the challenges of 1999, whatever the decision of the governments on duty-free," he said, referring to the expected end of tax-free cross-Channel retail sales on July 1.

The finance ministers of the European Union on Monday rejected a delay of the end of duty-free sales, but EU leaders are expected to make one last push at a summit in Berlin next week to maintain the travelers' perk of cheaper alcohol and cigarettes, if only for another 30 months.

The company warned that if prices would have to rise to make up for lost income if duty-free were scrapped.

Channel ferry workers on the French side, protesting against plans to end duty-free, blocked traffic through the tunnel on Monday.

Eurotunnel PLC shares rose 3 pence to 101.5 pence in London, while Eurotunnel SA shares traded in Paris closed at 1.49 euros (\$1.63), down 6 cents.

Eurotunnel believes the adverse impact from fare increases would be limited and temporary. Retail sales, which include duty-free revenues, made up a third of total revenue in 1998.

Total revenue rose by 26 percent, to £666 million, but revenue had suffered severely in the previous year due to the tunnel fire which took place in November 1996.

DUTY: Shopping Perk Nears Demise in EU

Continued from Page 11

member governments to decide what further measures might be necessary, including special aid for ports affected by high job losses.

The issue, which Prime Minister Tony Blair has promoted as a populist cause in Britain, could crop up again at an EU summit meeting in Berlin this month. But since the decision to abolish duty-free was taken unanimously, Mr. Blair would need to get a unanimous vote to undo the measure, and given Denmark's strong stand, it seemed unlikely he would be able to achieve this, officials said.

A Danish spokesman said there was no question of his government backing down. "We are consistent," he said.

The summit meeting will have to deal with an accord reached by agriculture ministers on the future funding of the EU's farm support budget.

The French finance minister, Dominique Strauss-Kahn, said he and his colleagues were optimistic because the farm ministers had actually managed to reach an agreement, but pessimistic over the high cost of the deal.

Mr. Strauss-Kahn said all the finance ministers agreed that the EU's farm

budget should not exceed its current level of 40.5 billion euros a year. The agriculture ministers overshot that mark by several billion euros.

The French minister said the resignation of the German finance minister, Oskar Lafontaine, had not altered the European Union's quest for growth and jobs. Mr. Lafontaine, who resigned last week, was an outspoken proponent of lower interest rates, arguing that they would spur job creation.

However, the ministers also stressed "the importance of moderate wage developments and structural policies" in the fight against unemployment, which appeared to be a support for Chancellor Gerhard Schröder's plan to reverse Mr. Lafontaine's prescription of high business taxes and above-inflation pay increases.

The ministers said the EU was well placed to pull out of its economic slowdown in the second half of this year, but they said the German economy continued to be vulnerable to global financial turmoil. "We are convinced now, which was not the case a month ago, that the slowdown in growth is temporary," said the Belgian finance minister, Jean-Jacques Viseur.

Italia to Cut Staff to Fight Olivetti Bid

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

ROME — Telecom Italia said Monday that it planned to cut its staff as part of a defense against a \$58 billion hostile takeover bid by Olivetti SpA.

But the company would not say whether the cuts would be as substantial as the 40,000 layoffs that the Financial Times reported were planned.

"Telecom has already begun to talk with unions over the issue, but we cannot absolutely confirm the 40,000 figure," a spokesman for the telecommunications concern said.

According to sources familiar with the matter, Telecom Italia planned to achieve about 25,000 job cuts by selling noncore units such as the cable maker Sirti SpA and about half that amount through staff reductions at other units that would remain within Telecom Italia.

Franco Bernabe, the chief executive of Telecom Italia, told investors Friday that there was "willingness" on the part of Telecom Italia's labor unions to consider a "rationalization" plan as long as it was balanced by growth in new areas.

The company has 124,000 employees. Telecom Italia's previous industrial plan, drafted last autumn by its ousted chairman, Gian Mario Rossignolo, called for 8,000 job cuts over three years.

Mr. Bernabe plans a series of meetings this week with top shareholders, such as Deutsche Bank AG, to persuade them that they will get a greater return on their investment if they turn down the Olivetti bid.

Mr. Bernabe is competing for investor support with Olivetti's chief executive, Roberto Colaninno, who is scheduled this week to unveil detailed plans of what Olivetti will do with Italy's largest phone company if shareholders accept the takeover bid.

Olivetti also plans a series of meetings with top investors.

(Reuters, Bloomberg)

Bank Breaks Ranks On Russian Debt Plan

By Alan Cowell
New York Times Service

LONDON — A group of Western banks holding \$15 billion in defaulted short-term Russian debt dismayed Monday after the largest creditor, Credit Suisse First Boston, broke the group's already fractured ranks to announce plans for a new ruble-based investment fund designed to recover debt.

The Credit Suisse proposal represented the second time in recent weeks that members of a 19-member committee of creditor banks have broken ranks to pursue plans to recover some of the Russian debt.

After a meeting in London on Monday, bankers said there had been complaints from other banks in the group that Credit Suisse had, in the words of a banker who spoke on condition that he not be named, "cut a side deal" with the Russians without the knowledge of the other members of the creditors' committee.

The same charges were leveled last month at Deutsche Bank AG and Chase Manhattan, which accepted Russian terms for debt restructuring, said to be worth about five cents on the dollar, when the others did not and

before a final agreement could be reached on the details of the Russian terms.

Credit Suisse said Monday that its seven-year "Nikitsky Recovery Fund" would provide an alternative to the Russian restructuring terms, enabling creditors to invest in infrastructure projects at the face value of the debt. But participants at the Monday meeting said Credit Suisse had been reluctant to say whether the Russian Central Bank had agreed to the terms.

Credit Suisse First Boston said it would provide management and a \$15 million loan to the fund. But other bankers said Credit Suisse also planned to charge a management fee of 2 percent of net asset value.

Deutsche Bank had been the head of the 19-bank creditor committee. But in a debate two weeks ago over Deutsche Bank's acceptance of the Russian terms, the group agreed to proceed without a chair.

The development Monday left Russia's creditor banks facing two clear options: to accept Russia's terms or to sign up for the Credit Suisse First Boston fund. But, bankers said, both were fraught with risk and one could undermine the other.

Kuoni to Buy U.K. Firm

Bloomberg News

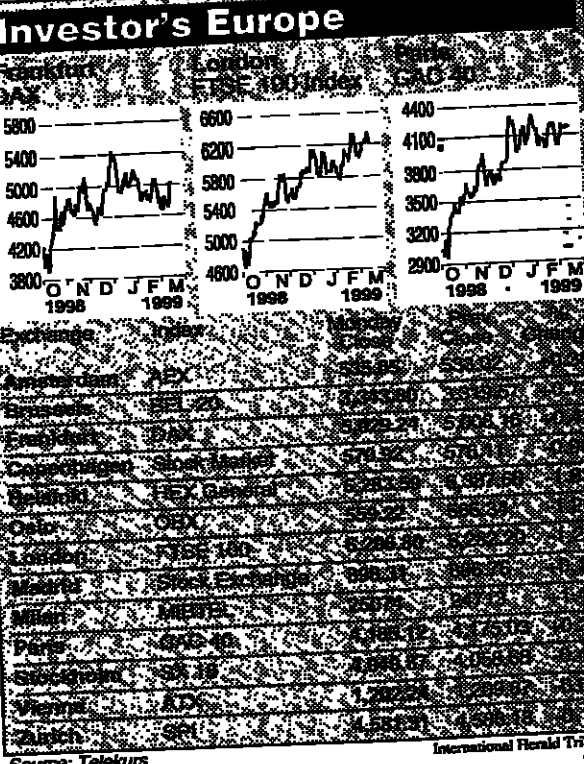
LONDON — Kuoni Reisen Holding AG, a Swiss tour operator, agreed Monday to buy First Choice Holidays PLC of Britain, creating the second-largest travel company in Europe.

Under the terms of the accord, Kuoni shareholders will own 53 percent of the enlarged company and First Choice shareholders 47 percent. The new company, Kuoni Holdings PLC, will be based in Britain, with stock

listings in London and Switzerland.

The financial details of the accord were not disclosed. The move is the latest in a series of takeovers among European tour operators as they seek to make better use of charter aircraft and drive harder bargains for hotel rooms.

Kuoni shares were unchanged at 5,500 Swiss francs (\$3,764), while First Choice's shares fell 14.50 pence to 173 pence (\$2.83).



Very briefly:

- VEB AG of Germany sold its 10.2 percent stake in the British phone company Cable & Wireless PLC.
- BASF AG predicted earnings would fall this year due to declining prices for chemicals. The company also said it planned to buy rivals' businesses and cut costs to raise returns.
- Britain will offer Bayerische Motoren Werke AG an aid package to try to persuade the German carmaker to maintain production of the troubled Rover car in Britain.
- The European Commission will investigate the use by Air France of the travel reservation system Amadeus Global Travel Distribution SA, at the request of the U.S. Department of Justice. The commission fears Amadeus could discriminate against the AMR Corp. system Sabre Group Holdings Inc.
- Lloyd's of London, the world's largest insurance market, said British and U.S. fraud investigators had uncovered a plot by U.S. organized-crime syndicates to infiltrate its market. "It is not anticipated there will be any losses sustained arising from the fraud, which has been stopped at an early stage," said David Gittings, a Lloyd's director.
- Bahrain's stock exchange is to be opened to nonresident foreigners for the first time, in a bid to increase liquidity. Previously only nationals or resident foreigners, Oman, Qatar, Cooperation Council states — Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates — could invest.
- Ikea AB, the Swedish furniture retailer, said a dispute over import duties has delayed the opening of its first Russian store and threatened further investment by the company in Russia.
- German manufacturing orders rose by 1.8 percent from December to January, the first rise in six months, but were still 3.4 percent lower than a year ago.

Bloomberg, AFP, Reuters

WORLD STOCK MARKETS

Monday, March 15
Prices in local currencies
in euros for EU countries.
TEU = time zone

High	Low	Close	Prev.
Amsterdam	123.15	123.15	123.15
Brussels	123.15	123.15	123.15
Frankfurt	123.15	123.15	123.15
London	123.15	123.15	123.15
Paris	123.15	123.15	123.15
Stockholm	123.15	123.15	123.15
Oslo	123.15	123.15	123.15
Copenhagen	123.15	123.15	123.15
Helsinki	123.15	123.15	123.15
Bombay	123.15	123.15	123.15
Bangkok	123.15	123.15	123.15
Kuala Lumpur	123.15	123.15	123.15
Manila	123.15	123.15	123.15
Mexico	123.15	123.15	123.15
Sao Paulo	123.15	123.15	123.15
Seoul	123.15	123.15	123.15
Taipei	123.15	123.15	123.15
Tokyo	123.15	123.15	123.15
Hong Kong	123.15	123.15	123.15
Singapore	123.15	123.15	123.15
Wellington	123.15	123.15	123.15
Zurich	123.15	123.15	123.15

High	Low	Close	Prev.
Montreal	123.15	123.15	123.15
Shanghai	123.15	123.15	123.15
Singapore	123.15	123.15	123.15
Stockholm	123.15	123.15	123.15
Oslo	123.15	123.15	123.15
Copenhagen	123.15	123.15	123.15
Helsinki	123.15	123.15	123.15
Bombay	123.15	123.15	123.15
Bangkok	123.15	123.15	123.15
Kuala Lumpur	123.15	123.15	123.15
Manila	123.15	123.15	123.15
Mexico	123.15	123.15	123.15
Sao Paulo	123.15	123.15	123.15
Seoul	123.15	123.15	123.15
Taipei	123.15	123.15	123.15
Tokyo	123.15	123.15	123.15
Hong Kong	123.15	123.15	123.15
Singapore	123.15	123.15	123.15
Wellington	123.15	123.15	123.15
Zurich	123.15	123.15	123.15

High	Low	Close	Prev.
Tokyo	123.15	123.15	123.15
London	123.15	123.15	123.15
Paris	123.15	123.15	123.15
Stockholm	123.15	123.15	123.15
Oslo	123.15	123.15	123.15
Copenhagen	123.15	123.15	123.15
Helsinki	123.15	123.15	123.15
Bombay	123.15	123.15	123.15
Bangkok	123.15	123.15	123.15
Kuala Lumpur	123.15	123.15	123.15
Manila	123.15	123.15	123.15
Mexico	123.15	123.15	123.15
Sao Paulo	123.15	123.15	123.15
Seoul	123.15	123.15	123.15
Taipei	123.15	123.15	123.15
Tokyo	123.15	123.15	123.15
Hong Kong	123.15	123.15	123.15
Singapore	123.15	123.15	123.15
Wellington	123.15	123.15	123.15
Zurich	123.15	123.15	123.15

High	Low	Close	Prev.
Amsterdam	123.15	123.15	123.15
Brussels	123.15	123.15	123.15
Frankfurt	123.15	123.15	123.15
London	123.15	123.15	123.15
Paris	123.15	123.15	123.15
Stockholm	123.15	123.15	123.15
Oslo	123.15	123.15	123.15
Copenhagen	123.15	123.15	123.15
Helsinki	123.15	123.15	123.15
Bombay	123.15	123.15	123.15
Bangkok	123.15	123.15	123.15
Kuala Lumpur	123.15	123.15	123.15
Manila	123.15	123.15	123.15
Mexico	123.15	123.15	123.15
Sao Paulo	123.15	123.15	123.15
Seoul	123.15	123.15	123.15
Taipei	123.15	123.15	123.15
Tokyo	123.15	123.15	123.15
Hong Kong	123.15	123.15	123.15
Singapore	123.15	123.15	123.15
Wellington	123.15	123.15	123.15
Zurich	123.15	123.15	123.15

High	Low	Close	Prev.
Montreal	123.15	123.15	123.15
Shanghai	123.15	123.15	123.15
Singapore	123.15	123.15	123.15
Stockholm	123.15	123.15	123.15
Oslo	123.15	123.15	123.15
Copenhagen	123.15	123.15	123.15
Helsinki	123.15	123.15	123.15
Bombay	123.15	123.15	123.15
Bangkok	123.15	123.15	123.15
Kuala Lumpur	123.15	123.15	123.15
Manila	123.15	123.15	123.15
Mexico	123.15	123.15	123.15
Sao Paulo	123.15	123.15	123.15
Seoul	123.15	123.15	123.15
Taipei	123.15	123.15	123.15
Tokyo	123.15	123.15	123.15
Hong Kong	123.15	123.15	123.15
Singapore	123.15	123.15	123.15
Wellington	123.15	123.15	123.15
Zurich	123.15	123.15	123.15

High	Low	Close	Prev.
Tokyo	123.15	123.15	123.15
London	123.15	123.15	123.15
Paris	123.15	123.15	123.15
Stockholm	123.15	123.15	123.15
Oslo	123.15	123.15	123.15
Copenhagen	123.15	123.15	123.15
Helsinki	123.15	123.15	123.15
Bombay	123.15	123.15	123.15
Bangkok	123.15	123.15	123.15
Kuala Lumpur	123.15	123.15	123.15
Manila	123.15	123.15	123.15
Mexico	123.15	123.15	123.15
Sao Paulo	123.15	123.15	123.15
Seoul	123.15	123.15	123.15
Taipei	123.15	123.15	123.15
Tokyo	123.15	123.15	123.15
Hong Kong	123.15	123.15	123.15
Singapore	123.15	123.15	123.15
Wellington	123.15	123.15	123.15
Zurich	123.15	123.15	123.15

High	Low	Close	Prev.
Amsterdam	123.15	123.15	123.15
Brussels	123.15	123.15	123.15
Frankfurt	123.15	123.15	123.15
London	123.15	123.15	123.15
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Stockholm	123.15	123.15	123.15
Oslo	123.15	123.15	123.15
Copenhagen	123.15	123.15	123.15
Helsinki	123.15	123.15	123.15
Bombay	123.15	123.15	123.15
Bangkok	123.15	123.15	123.15
Kuala Lumpur	123.15	123.15	123.15
Manila	123.15	123.15	123.15
Mexico	123.15	123.15	123.15
Sao Paulo	123.15	123.15	123.15
Seoul	123.15	123.15	123.15
Taipei	123.15	123.15	123.15
Tokyo	123.15	123.15	123.15
Hong Kong	123.15	123.15	123.15
Singapore	123.15	123.15	123.15
Wellington	123.15	123.15	123.15
Zurich	123.15	123.15	123.15

NASDAQ

Monday's 4 P.M.

The 1,000 most traded National Market securities
in terms of dollar value, updated twice a year.
The Associated Press.

12 Month			52			Low Latest			Cry		
High	Low	Stock	Dr	Yt	PE	100s	High	Low	Latest	Cry	

[illegible][illegible][illegible][illegible][illegible][illegible]

1. 姓名: 王德明
 2. 性别: 男
 3. 年龄: 45
 4. 籍贯: 山东省济南市
 5. 职业: 教师
 6. 婚姻状况: 已婚
 7. 子女情况: 一子一女
 8. 健康状况: 良好
 9. 教育程度: 大学
 10. 工作单位: 济南市第一中学
 11. 联系电话: 13812345678
 12. 电子邮箱: wangdeming@example.com
 13. 身份证号: 370102197805151234
 14. 住址: 济南市经二路123号
 15. 邮编: 250001

1. 1990年1月1日至1990年12月31日止，共发生案件100件，其中：\n (1) 1990年1月1日至1990年3月31日止，共发生案件30件，其中：\n (2) 1990年4月1日至1990年6月30日止，共发生案件40件，其中：\n (3) 1990年7月1日至1990年9月30日止，共发生案件50件，其中：\n (4) 1990年10月1日至1990年12月31日止，共发生案件20件，其中：	2. 1991年1月1日至1991年12月31日止，共发生案件120件，其中：\n (1) 1991年1月1日至1991年3月31日止，共发生案件40件，其中：\n (2) 1991年4月1日至1991年6月30日止，共发生案件50件，其中：\n (3) 1991年7月1日至1991年9月30日止，共发生案件30件，其中：\n (4) 1991年10月1日至1991年12月31日止，共发生案件0件，其中：	3. 1992年1月1日至1992年12月31日止，共发生案件150件，其中：\n (1) 1992年1月1日至1992年3月31日止，共发生案件60件，其中：\n (2) 1992年4月1日至1992年6月30日止，共发生件70件，其中：\n (3) 1992年7月1日至1992年9月30日止，共发生案件40件，其中：\n (4) 1992年10月1日至1992年12月31日止，共发生案件20件，其中：	4. 1993年1月1日至1993年12月31日止，共发生案件180件，其中：\n (1) 1993年1月1日至1993年3月31日止，共发生案件70件，其中：\n (2) 1993年4月1日至1993年6月30日止，共发生件80件，其中：\n (3) 1993年7月1日至1993年9月30日止，共发生案件50件，其中：\n (4) 1993年10月1日至1993年12月31日止，共发生案件30件，其中：	5. 1994年1月1日至1994年12月31日止，共发生案件200件，其中：\n (1) 1994年1月1日至1994年3月31日止，共发生件80件，其中：\n (2) 1994年4月1日至1994年6月30日止，共发生件90件，其中：\n (3) 1994年7月1日至1994年9月30日止，共发生案件60件，其中：\n (4) 1994年10月1日至1994年12月31日止，共发生案件70件，其中：
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[illegible][illegible][illegible][illegible]

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60	61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	100
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60	61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	100

[illegible][illegible]

12 Month	Low	Stock	Div Yld	P/E	100 High	Low/Low
1970	100	100	100	100	100	100
1971	100	100	100	100	100	100
1972	100	100	100	100	100	100
1973	100	100	100	100	100	100
1974	100	100	100	100	100	100
1975	100	100	100	100	100	100
1976	100	100	100	100	100	100
1977	100	100	100	100	100	100
1978	100	100	100	100	100	100
1979	100	100	100	100	100	100
1980	100	100	100	100	100	100
1981	100	100	100	100	100	100
1982	100	100	100	100	100	100
1983	100	100	100	100	100	100
1984	100	100	100	100	100	100
1985	100	100	100	100	100	100
1986	100	100	100	100	100	100
1987	100	100	100	100	100	100
1988	100	100	100	100	100	100
1989	100	100	100	100	100	100
1990	100	100	100	100	100	100
1991	100	100	100	100	100	100
1992	100	100	100	100	100	100
1993	100	100	100	100	100	100
1994	100	100	100	100	100	100
1995	100	100	100	100	100	100
1996	100	100	100	100	100	100
1997	100	100	100	100	100	100
1998	100	100	100	100	100	100
1999	100	100	100	100	100	100
2000	100	100	100	100	100	100
2001	100	100	100	100	100	100
2002	100	100	100	100	100	100
2003	100	100	100	100	100	100
2004	100	100	100	100	100	100
2005	100	100	100	100	100	100
2006	100	100	100	100	100	100
2007	100	100	100	100	100	100
2008	100	100	100	100	100	100
2009	100	100	100	100	100	100
2010	100	100	100	100	100	100
2011	100	100	100	100	100	100
2012	100	100	100	100	100	100
2013	100	100	100	100	100	100
2014	100	100	100	100	100	100
2015	100	100	100	100	100	100
2016	100	100	100	100	100	100
2017	100	100	100	100	100	100
2018	100	100	100	100	100	100
2019	100	100	100	100	100	100
2020	100	100	100	100	100	100
2021	100	100	100	100	100	100
2022	100	100	100	100	100	100
2023	100	100	100	100	100	100
2024	100	100	100	100	100	100
2025	100	100	100	100	100	100
2026	100	100	100	100	100	100

AMEX

Monday's 4 P.M. Close
The 150 most traded stocks of the day,
up to the closing on Wall Street.
The Associated Press.

Case	Sales	High	Low	Latest	Ch
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[illegible][illegible]**NYSE**

Monday's 3:45 P.M.
(Continued)

12 Month		Stock	Div	Yld	PE	100% ^{Std} High	Low	Latest	Cirge
High	Low								
82	84	87	574	128%	123%	123%	-16		

[illegible][illegible]

Year	1900	1901	1902	1903	1904	1905	1906	1907	1908	1909	1910	1911	1912	1913	1914	1915	1916	1917	1918	1919	1920	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925	1926	1927	1928	1929	1930	1931	1932	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937	1938	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	2034	2035	2036	2037	2038	2039	2040	2041	2042	2043	2044	2045	2046	2047	2048	2049	2050	2051	2052	2053	2054	2055	2056	2057	2058	2059	2060	2061	2062	2063	2064	2065	2066	2067	2068	2069	2070	2071	2072	2073	2074	2075	2076	2077	2078	2079	2080	2081	2082	2083	2084	2085	2086	2087	2088	2089	2090	2091	2092	2093	2094	2095	2096	2097	2098	2099	2100																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																			
Population	1,000,000	1,050,000	1,100,000	1,150,000	1,200,000	1,250,000	1,300,000	1,350,000	1,400,000	1,450,000	1,500,000	1,550,000	1,600,000	1,650,000	1,700,000	1,750,000	1,800,000	1,850,000	1,900,000	1,950,000	2,000,000	2,050,000	2,100,000	2,150,000	2,200,000	2,250,000	2,300,000	2,350,000	2,400,000	2,450,000	2,500,000	2,550,000	2,600,000	2,650,000	2,700,000	2,750,000	2,800,000	2,850,000	2,900,000	2,950,000	3,000,000	3,050,000	3,100,000	3,150,000	3,200,000	3,250,000	3,300,000	3,350,000	3,400,000	3,450,000	3,500,000	3,550,000	3,600,000	3,650,000	3,700,000	3,750,000	3,800,000	3,850,000	3,900,000	3,950,000	4,000,000	4,050,000	4,100,000	4,150,000	4,200,000	4,250,000	4,300,000	4,350,000	4,400,000	4,450,000	4,500,000	4,550,000	4,600,000	4,650,000	4,700,000	4,750,000	4,800,000	4,850,000	4,900,000	4,950,000	5,000,000	5,050,000	5,100,000	5,150,000	5,200,000	5,250,000	5,300,000	5,350,000	5,400,000	5,450,000	5,500,000	5,550,000	5,600,000	5,650,000	5,700,000	5,750,000	5,800,000	5,850,000	5,900,000	5,950,000	6,000,000	6,050,000	6,100,000	6,150,000	6,200,000	6,250,000	6,300,000	6,350,000	6,400,000	6,450,000	6,500,000	6,550,000	6,600,000	6,650,000	6,700,000	6,750,000	6,800,000	6,850,000	6,900,000	6,950,000	7,000,000	7,050,000	7,100,000	7,150,000	7,200,000	7,250,000	7,300,000	7,350,000	7,400,000	7,450,000	7,500,000	7,550,000	7,600,000	7,650,000	7,700,000	7,750,000	7,800,000	7,850,000	7,900,000	7,950,000	8,000,000	8,050,000	8,100,000	8,150,000	8,200,000	8,250,000	8,300,000	8,350,000	8,400,000	8,450,000	8,500,000	8,550,000	8,600,000	8,650,000	8,700,000	8,750,000	8,800,000	8,850,000	8,900,000	8,950,000	9,000,000	9,050,000	9,100,000	9,150,000	9,200,000	9,250,000	9,300,000	9,350,000	9,400,000	9,450,000	9,500,000	9,550,000	9,600,000	9,650,000	9,700,000	9,750,000	9,800,000	9,850,000	9,900,000	9,950,000	10,000,000	10,050,000	10,100,000	10,150,000	10,200,000	10,250,000	10,300,000	10,350,000	10,400,000	10,450,000	10,500,000	10,550,000	10,600,000	10,650,000	10,700,000	10,750,000	10,800,000	10,850,000	10,900,000	10,950,000	11,000,000	11,050,000	11,100,000	11,150,000	11,200,000	11,250,000	11,300,000	11,350,000	11,400,000	11,450,000	11,500,000	11,550,000	11,600,000	11,650,000	11,700,000	11,750,000	11,800,000	11,850,000	11,900,000	11,950,000	12,000,000	12,050,000	12,100,000	12,150,000	12,200,000	12,250,000	12,300,000	12,350,000	12,400,000	12,450,000	12,500,000	12,550,000	12,600,000	12,650,000	12,700,000	12,750,000	12,800,000	12,850,000	12,900,000	12,950,000	13,000,000	13,050,000	13,100,000	13,150,000	13,200,000	13,250,000	13,300,000	13,350,000	13,400,000	13,450,000	13,500,000	13,550,000	13,600,000	13,650,000	13,700,000	13,750,000	13,800,000	13,850,000	13,900,000	13,950,000	14,000,000	14,050,000	14,100,000	14,150,000	14,200,000	14,250,000	14,300,000	14,350,000	14,400,000	14,450,000	14,500,000	14,550,000	14,600,000	14,650,000	14,700,000	14,750,000	14,800,000	14,850,000	14,900,000	14,950,000	15,000,000	15,050,000	15,100,000	15,150,000	15,200,000	15,250,000	15,300,000	15,350,000	15,400,000	15,450,000	15,500,000	15,550,000	15,600,000	15,650,000	15,700,000	15,750,000	15,800,000	15,850,000	15,900,000	15,950,000	16,000,000	16,050,000	16,100,000	16,150,000	16,200,000	16,250,000	16,300,000	16,350,000	16,400,000	16,450,000	16,500,000	16,550,000	16,600,000	16,650,000	16,700,000	16,750,000	16,800,000	16,850,000	16,900,000	16,950,000	17,000,000	17,050,000	17,100,000	17,150,000	17,200,000	17,250,000	17,300,000	17,350,000	17,400,000	17,450,000	17,500,000	17,550,000	17,600,000	17,650,000	17,700,000	17,750,000	17,800,000	17,850,000	17,900,000	17,950,000	18,000,000	18,050,000	18,100,000	18,150,000	18,200,000	18,250,000	18,300,000	18,350,000	18,400,000	18,450,000	18,500,000	18,550,000	18,600,000	18,650,000	18,700,000	18,750,000	18,800,000	18,850,000	18,900,000	18,950,000	19,000,000	19,050,000	19,100,000	19,150,000	19,200,000	19,250,000	19,300,000	19,350,000	19,400,000	19,450,000	19,500,000	19,550,000	19,600,000	19,650,000	19,700,000	19,750,000	19,800,000	19,850,000	19,900,000	19,950,000	20,000,000	20,050,000	20,100,000	20,150,000	20,200,000	20,250,000	20,300,000	20,350,000	20,400,000	20,450,000	20,500,000	20,550,000	20,600,000	20,650,000	20,700,000	20,750,000	20,800,000	20,850,000	20,900,000	20,950,000	21,000,000	21,050,000	21,100,000	21,150,000	21,200,000	21,250,000	21,300,000	21,350,000	21,400,000	21,450,000	21,500,000	21,550,000	21,600,000	21,650,000	21,700,000	21,750,000	21,800,000	21,850,000	21,900,000	21,950,000	22,000,000	22,050,000	22,100,000	22,150,000	22,200,000	22,250,000	22,300,000	22,350,000	22,400,000	22,450,000	22,500,000	22,550,000	22,600,000	22,650,000	22,700,000	22,750,000	22,800,000	22,850,000	22,900,000	22,950,000	23,000,000	23,050,000	23,100,000	23,150,000	23,200,000	23,250,000	23,300,000	23,350,000	23,400,000	23,450,000	23,500,000	23,550,000	23,600,000	23,650,000	23,700,000	23,750,000	23,800,000	23,850,000	23,900,000	23,950,000	24,000,000	24,050,000	24,100,000	24,150,000	24,200,000	24,250,000	24,300,000	24,350,000	24,400,000	24,450,000	24,500,000	24,550,000	24,600,000	24,650,000	24,700,000	24,750,000	24,800,000	24,850,000	24,900,000	24,950,000	25,000,000	25,050,000	25,100,000	25,150,000	25,200,000	25,250,000	25,300,000	25,350,000	25,400,000	25,450,000	25,500,000	25,550,000	25,600,000	25,650,000	25,700,000	25,750,000	25,800,000	25,850,000	25,900,000	25,950,000	26,000,000	26,050,000	26,100,000	26,150,000	26,200,000	26,250,000	26,300,000	26,350,000	26,400,000	26,450,000	26,500,000	26,550,000	26,600,000	26,650,000	26,700,000	26,750,000	26,800,000	26,850,000	26,900,000	26,950,000	27,000,000	27,050,000	27,100,000	27,150,000	27,200,000	27,250,000	27,300,000	27,350,000	27,400,000	27,450,000	27,500,000	27,550,000	27,600,000	27,650,000	27,700,000	27,750,000	27,800,000	27,850,000	27,900,000	27,950,000	28,000,000	28,050,000	28,100,000	28,150,000	28,200,000	28,250,000	28,300,000	28,350,000	28,400,000	28,450,000	28,500,000	28,550,000	28,600,000	28,650,000	28,700,000	28,750,000	28,800,000	28,850,000	28,900,000	28,950,000	29,000,000	29,050,000	29,100,000	29,150,000	29,200,000	29,250,000	29,300,000	29,350,000	29,400,000	29,450,000	29,500,000	29,550,000	29,600,000	29,650,000	29,700,000	29,750,000	29,800,000	29,850,000	29,900,000	29,950,000	30,000,000	30,050,000	30,100,000	30,150,000	30,200,000	30,250,000	30,300,000	30,350,000	30,400,000	30,450,000	30,500,000	30,550,000	30,600,000	30,650,000	30,700,000	30,750,000	30,800,000	30,850,000	30,900,000	30,950,000	31,000,000	31,050,000	31,100,000	31,150,000	31,200,000	31,250,000	31,300,000	31,350,000	31,400,000	31,450,000	31,500,000	31,550,000	31,600,000	31,650,000	31,700,000	31,750,000	31,800,000	31,850,000	31,900,000	31,950,000	32,000,000	32,050,000	32,100,000	32,150,000	32,200,000	32,250,000	32,300,000	32,350,000	32,400,000	32,450,000	32,500,000	32,550,000	32,600,000	32,650,000	32,700,000	32,750,000	32,800,000	32,850,000	32,900,000	32,950,000	33,000,000	33,050,000	33,100,000	33,150,000	33,200,000	33,250,000	33,300,000	33,350,000	33,400,000	33,450,000	33,500,000	33,550,000	33,600,000	33,650,000	33,700,000	33,750,000	33,800,000	33,850,000	33,900,000	33,950,000	34,000,000	34,050,000	34,100,000	34,150,000	34,200,000	34,250,000	34,300,000	34,350,000	34,400,000	34,450,000	34,500,000	34,550,000	34,600,000	34,650,000	34,700,000	34,750,000	34,800,000	34,850,000	34,900,000	34,950,000	35,000,000	35,050,000	35,100,000	35,150,000	35,200,000	35,250,000	35,300,000	35,350,000	35,400,000	35,450,000	35,500,000	35,550,000	35,600,000	35,650,000	35,700,000	35,750,000	35,800,000	35,850,000	35,900,000	35,950,000	36,000,000	36,050,000	36,100,000	36,150,000	36,200,000	36,250,000	36,300,000	36,350,000	36,400,000	36,450,000	36,500,000	36,550,000	36,600,000	36,650,000	36,700,000	36,750,0

[illegible]

姓名	性别	年龄	籍贯	职业	文化程度	健康状况	婚姻状况	子女情况	其他
王德胜	男	45	山东	农民	小学	良好	已婚	2子1女	
李秀英	女	38	河北	工人	初中	良好	已婚	1子1女	
张国强	男	52	河南	干部	高中	良好	已婚	2子1女	
刘小红	女	28	江苏	教师	大学	良好	已婚	1子1女	
陈为民	男	40	浙江	商人	小学	良好	已婚	2子1女	
赵大刚	男	35	湖北	工人	初中	良好	已婚	1子1女	
孙丽娟	女	32	湖南	工人	小学	良好	已婚	2子1女	
周国强	男	48	四川	农民	小学	良好	已婚	2子1女	
吴小芳	女	25	广东	工人	初中	良好	已婚	1子1女	
郑为民	男	55	广西	干部	高中	良好	已婚	2子1女	
冯大刚	男	30	福建	工人	小学	良好	已婚	1子1女	
李秀英	女	35	江西	工人	初中	良好	已婚	2子1女	
张国强	男	42	安徽	商人	小学	良好	已婚	1子1女	
刘小红	女	22	山西	工人	初中	良好	已婚	2子1女	
陈为民	男	50	陕西	干部	高中	良好	已婚	1子1女	
赵大刚	男	38	甘肃	工人	小学	良好	已婚	2子1女	
孙丽娟	女	30	宁夏	工人	初中	良好	已婚	1子1女	
周国强	男	45	青海	农民	小学	良好	已婚	2子1女	
吴小芳	女	28	新疆	工人	初中	良好	已婚	1子1女	
郑为民	男	52	内蒙古	干部	高中	良好	已婚	2子1女	
冯大刚	男	32	黑龙江	工人	小学	良好	已婚	1子1女	
李秀英	女	38	吉林	工人	初中	良好	已婚	2子1女	
张国强	男	45	辽宁	商人	小学	良好	已婚	1子1女	
刘小红	女	25	河北	工人	初中	良好	已婚	2子1女	
陈为民	男	55	山东	干部	高中	良好	已婚	1子1女	
赵大刚	男	35	河南	工人	小学	良好	已婚	2子1女	
孙丽娟	女	32	江苏	工人	初中	良好	已婚	1子1女	
周国强	男	48	浙江	农民	小学	良好	已婚	2子1女	
吴小芳	女	25	湖北	工人	初中	良好	已婚	1子1女	
郑为民	男	52	湖南	干部	高中	良好	已婚	2子1女	
冯大刚	男	30	四川	工人	小学	良好	已婚	1子1女	
李秀英	女	35	广东	工人	初中	良好	已婚	2子1女	
张国强	男	42	广西	商人	小学	良好	已婚	1子1女	
刘小红	女	22	福建	工人	初中	良好	已婚	2子1女	
陈为民	男	50	江西	干部	高中	良好	已婚	1子1女	
赵大刚	男	38	安徽	工人	小学	良好	已婚	2子1女	
孙丽娟	女	30	山西	工人	初中	良好	已婚	1子1女	
周国强	男	45	陕西	农民	小学	良好	已婚	2子1女	
吴小芳	女	28	甘肃	工人	初中	良好	已婚	1子1女	
郑为民	男	52	宁夏	干部	高中	良好	已婚	2子1女	
冯大刚	男	32	青海	工人	小学	良好	已婚	1子1女	
李秀英	女	38	新疆	工人	初中	良好	已婚	2子1女	
张国强	男	45	内蒙古	商人	小学	良好	已婚	1子1女	
刘小红	女	25	黑龙江	工人	初中	良好	已婚	2子1女	
陈为民	男	55	吉林	干部	高中	良好	已婚	1子1女	
赵大刚	男	35	辽宁	工人	小学	良好	已婚	2子1女	
孙丽娟	女	32	河北	工人	初中	良好	已婚	1子1女	
周国强	男	48	山东	农民	小学	良好	已婚	2子1女	
吴小芳	女	25	河南	工人	初中	良好	已婚	1子1女	
郑为民	男	52	江苏	干部	高中	良好	已婚	2子1女	
冯大刚	男	30	浙江	工人	小学	良好	已婚	1子1女	
李秀英	女	35	湖北	工人	初中	良好	已婚	2子1女	
张国强	男	42	湖南	商人	小学	良好	已婚	1子1女	
刘小红	女	22	四川	工人	初中	良好	已婚	2子1女	
陈为民	男	50	广东	干部	高中	良好	已婚	1子1女	
赵大刚	男	38	广西	工人	小学	良好	已婚	2子1女	
孙丽娟	女	30	福建	工人	初中	良好	已婚	1子1女	
周国强	男	45	江西	农民	小学	良好	已婚	2子1女	
吴小芳	女	28	安徽	工人	初中	良好	已婚	1子1女	
郑为民	男	52	山西	干部	高中	良好	已婚	2子1女	
冯大刚	男	32	陕西	工人	小学	良好	已婚	1子1女	
李秀英	女	38	甘肃	工人	初中	良好	已婚	2子1女	
张国强	男	45	宁夏	商人	小学	良好	已婚	1子1女	
刘小红	女	25	青海	工人	初中	良好	已婚	2子1女	
陈为民	男	55	新疆	干部	高中	良好	已婚	1子1女	
赵大刚	男	35	内蒙古	工人	小学	良好	已婚	2子1女	
孙丽娟	女	32	黑龙江	工人	初中	良好	已婚	1子1女	
周国强	男	48	吉林	农民	小学	良好	已婚	2子1女	
吴小芳	女	25	辽宁	工人	初中	良好	已婚	1子1女	
郑为民	男	52	河北	干部	高中	良好	已婚	2子1女	
冯大刚	男	30	山东	工人	小学	良好	已婚	1子1女	
李秀英	女	35	河南	工人	初中	良好	已婚	2子1女	
张国强	男	42	江苏	商人	小学	良好	已婚	1子1女	
刘小红	女	22	湖北	工人	初中	良好	已婚	2子1女	
陈为民	男	50	湖南	干部	高中	良好	已婚	1子1女	
赵大刚	男	38	四川	工人	小学	良好	已婚	2子1女	
孙丽娟	女	30	广东	工人	初中	良好	已婚	1子1女	
周国强	男	45	广西	农民	小学	良好	已婚	2子1女	
吴小芳	女	28	福建	工人	初中	良好	已婚	1子1女	
郑为民	男	52	江西	干部	高中	良好	已婚	2子1女	
冯大刚	男	32	安徽	工人	小学	良好	已婚	1子1女	
李秀英	女	38	山西	工人	初中	良好	已婚	2子1女	
张国强	男	45	陕西	商人	小学	良好	已婚	1子1女	
刘小红	女	25	甘肃	工人	初中	良好	已婚	2子1女	
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张国强	男	45	山东						

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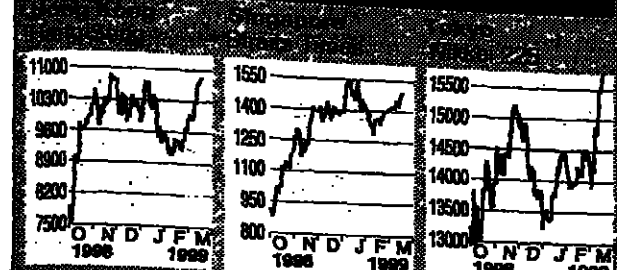
Not Bid for Time

SYSTEM MANAGEMENT

هكذا من الأصل

ASIA/PACIFIC

Investor's Asia



Source: Telekurs

Manila Officials Get Airline's Survival Plan

MANILA — Philippine Airlines Inc., battling to keep Asia's oldest carrier flying, said Monday it had given regulators a revised rehabilitation plan that had the support of two-thirds of its creditors.

The new plan calls for a \$200 million cash injection that would give investors at least 90 percent ownership of the debt-ridden airline. As much as 60 percent of the fresh equity is to come from new financial investors, whom it did not identify. The rehabilitation plan also calls for the sale of non-core assets including its maintenance and engineering division and the reduction of its fleet to 22 planes from 50. The airline plans to service 12 international and 17 domestic routes.

Perfecto Yasay Jr., the chairman of the Securities and Exchange Commission, said regulators would decide on the plan's viability by April 15.

Filing the rehabilitation plan is an important milestone for the airline, which ceased operations for several weeks last year because of labor unrest and massive losses. The losses, caused in part by Asia's financial crisis, have hampered its ability to pay off more than \$2.2 billion in debts.

Mr. Yasay said the main objective of the new plan, submitted 58 years to the day after Philippine Air's first flight, was to ensure the airline's survival, but it must also address the concerns of creditors.

Analysts said the airline was unlikely to survive unless it found a foreign partner. Cathay Pacific Airways Ltd. of Hong Kong had been negotiating a stake but pulled out of talks in December, citing irreconcilable differences over management control and valuation of the carrier.

Philippine Air said last month its net loss in the nine months that ended Dec. 31 more than doubled, to 9.98 billion pesos (\$256.5 million) from 4.76 billion pesos a year earlier.

(Bloomberg, Reuters, AFP)

Japan's Trade Surplus in January: Up 72% and Growing

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

TOKYO — The current-account surplus soared 72.2 percent in January from a year earlier as imports plunged and oil prices tumbled, the Finance Ministry said Monday. Japan's surplus hit \$87.5 billion yen (\$6.8 billion) in the month and was likely to keep rising, a ministry spokesman said.

"The January current-account surplus showed the continued weakness of domestic demand amid the recession," said Hidehiko Fujii, senior economist at the Japan Research Institute. Japan's surplus in merchandise trade alone widened 67 percent, to 927.3

billion yen, in January, with exports down 10.9 percent to 3.331 trillion yen and imports off 24.5 percent to 2.404 trillion yen.

The current-account balance is a broad measure that reflects the flow of merchandise and services as well as investment income and other monetary transfers. The government announced last week that Japan's economy was still shrinking, and it has been contracting for a record five consecutive quarters.

"Also considering the double-digit fall in exports, the economic situation both here and abroad is weak," Mr. Fujii said, adding that the yen's strength was hurting Japanese

exporters. The ministry said the fall in crude-oil prices was behind the surging trade surplus. In January the average price of crude oil was just \$11.35 a barrel, down 38 percent from last year, officials said.

January's figures will probably put Tokyo under yet more pressure from Washington to spur its economy, Mr. Fujii said.

"Japan's surplus is nothing new to the United States, but it will give them a perfect chance to demand Japan increase its domestic demand, particularly as the presidential election nears," Mr. Fujii said, referring to the U.S. voting next year.

Last week, the United States said it had a record \$233.4 billion deficit in its current account in 1998, a 50 percent jump from a \$155.2 billion shortfall in 1997.

Despite two stimulus packages valued at more than 40 trillion yen last year, the Japanese economy has shown only tentative signs of turning around.

"The government's spending efforts center on public works, and given the severity of the economic situation right now, it won't lead to a boost in domestic demand," said Satoru Ogasawara, an economist at Credit Suisse First Boston Inc. (AFP, Reuters)

A 6% Unemployment Rate Makes Hong Kong Gloomy

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

HONG KONG — Unemployment climbed to 6 percent in the three months through February, the government said Monday, the highest rate since the city began releasing such figures in 1981.

The report also continued to offer a gloomy outlook. "As overall economic activity might continue to be slack in the early part of the year, the unemployment rate was likely to remain high in the near term," said Tang Kwong-yin, a government economist.

The unemployment rate rose steadily in 1998 as the city's economy contracted by a record 5.1 percent. This year economists expect unemployment to rise as high as 6.5 percent or 7 percent.

Mr. Tang said many layoffs had occurred around the time of the Chinese New Year in mid-February, when companies traditionally review their books and lay off some workers after giving them year-end bonuses. Most of the newly unemployed were in the construction or restaurant industries, while joblessness

in the real-estate sector eased.

A slowdown in the growth of unemployment in recent months proved only temporary, said Dong Tao, chief regional economist at Credit Suisse First Boston Ltd., "as service-industry businesses tried to keep going until the lunar new year, squeezing out every last dollar before closing or downsizing."

(AP, Bloomberg)

Cinema Blackout: A Protest Move

Faced with a flood of pirated movies, Hong Kong's approximately 75 cinemas will close Wednesday to protest their losses of money and jobs, The Associated Press reported.

The theaters said the one-day action would cost them 1.5 million Hong Kong dollars (\$192,000) but said they hoped that would be offset by increasing awareness of piracy's costs. Actors, directors, singers and other copyright-based industry members will join the protest by marching to government offices to demand action against violations of intellectual-property rights.

Korean Firms Urged to Cut Debt

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

SEOUL — The central bank urged the government Monday to keep up its pressure on companies to sell off their unprofitable assets. The country's corporate debt is now almost twice the size of its economy, it reported.

Corporate debt totaled \$14.9 trillion won (\$660.9 billion) at the end of September, compared with the country's gross national product of 414 trillion won, the Bank of Korea said. GNP is the total output of goods and services in the economy.

The government has been pushing the country's big conglomerates, or chaebol, to

consolidate their core operations and sell unprofitable units.

But the chaebol have had trouble completing planned deals.

Ssangyong Group said last week that it and SK Group had reached an agreement in principle to transfer Ssangyong's 28.41 percent stake in Ssangyong Oil Refining Co. to SK. But Ssangyong said Monday that Saudi Arabian Oil Co., a major shareholder, has not endorsed the sale. That could cause the transaction to collapse.

On Monday, Hyundai Oil Refinery Co. agreed to take over Hanwha Energy Co.'s oil refining division

(Bloomberg, AFP)

SIA to Set Bid for Thai

Bloomberg News

SINGAPORE — Singapore Airlines Ltd. said Monday it would bid with Lufthansa AG for a stake in Thai Airways International PCL, struggling off reports that Thailand might reject its offer.

The Thai government owns 90 percent of Thai Airways, and Thai law may rule out SIA's bid as a competitive threat. "We are still going to make a proposal," said Cheong Choong Kong, chief executive of Singapore Airlines, known by the initials SIA.

Singapore Airlines said last April that it was looking to buy a 25 percent stake in Thai Airways. With cash reserves of 1.5 billion (\$865.6 million) to 2 billion Singapore dollars, SIA could tighten its hold on Southeast Asian air traffic with a Thai Airways stake.

Singapore's national carrier has been seeking stakes in other airlines, including China Airlines and South African Airways, as its Asian business has slowed. Its deal with China Airlines was called off in January. It has submitted a bid, also with Lufthansa as its partner, for South African Airways.

Mr. Cheong also said SIA was considering joining Star Alliance, the airline group that includes Lufthansa, Thai Airways and United Airlines, among others.

Very briefly:

• Hutchison Whampoa Ltd. of Hong Kong said it had no plans to seek a New York listing, but it declined to comment on market talk that it was raising cash for a major acquisition. Hutchison shares rose 2.50 Hong Kong dollars (32 cents) to 63 dollars on the reports.

• Malaysia's 1998 property sales posted their worst slide in five years, falling 48 percent from a year ago to 27.9 billion ringgit (\$7.34 billion), as business closures and fears of unemployment dampened demand.

• Thailand's revised agreement with the International Monetary Fund will be ready for cabinet approval March 23 and will include new stimulus measures to shore up the sagging economy.

• Malaysia's inflation rate rose 3.8 percent year-on-year in February, down from a rate of 5.2 percent in January.

• Cathay Pacific Airways, a week after posting its first net loss in 35 years, plans to cut the pay of about 600 pilots by about 8 percent this year.

(Reuters, Bloomberg, AFP)

PICTET GIM MANAGEMENT (Luxembourg) S.A. Société Anonyme

R.C. Luxembourg N°: 58 589
Registered Office
1, Boulevard Royal
L-2449 Luxembourg

Notice of Liquidation of Gim Fund

Unit holders are informed that Gim Fund has been put into liquidation as of 12th March 1999. The issuance and redemption of Units as well as calculation of the net asset value per Unit, have been suspended with effect as from 15th February 1999.

Following the liquidation procedure, net liquidation proceeds have been paid to the Unit holders in proportion to the number of Units held by each of them. Any amounts which cannot be distributed to Unit holders will be deposited in escrow with the Caisse des Consignations in Luxembourg.

The accounts and the records of Gim Fund will be deposited and kept for the period of five years at the offices of Banque Pictet (Luxembourg) S.A. 1, Boulevard Royal, L-2442 Luxembourg.

The Board of Directors of
Pictet Gim Management (Luxembourg) S.A.

CAPITAL INTERNATIONAL FUND

Société d'Investissement à Capital Variable
Registered Office: 5, rue Plessis, L-2338 Luxembourg
R.C. Luxembourg B 8839

Shareholders are invited to attend the

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS

which will be held at 5, rue Plessis, L-2338 Luxembourg on March 30, 1999 at 11.00 am:

AGENDA

1. Approval of the Report of the Board of Directors and of the Auditor.
2. Approval of the Financial Statements for the fiscal year ended December 31, 1998.
3. Decision on allocation of net profits.
4. Discharge of the Directors.
5. Election of the Directors and re-appointment of the Auditor.
6. Miscellaneous.

Note:
All Shareholders are entitled to attend and vote and are entitled to appoint proxies to attend and vote instead of them. A proxy need not be a member of the Company. To be valid a Form of Proxy must be lodged with the Company at its registered office, 5, rue Plessis, L-2338 Luxembourg, at least 48 hours before the time appointed for holding the meeting.

The Board of Directors

THE GLOBAL LAW FIRM OF BAKER & MCKENZIE

is pleased to announce that it has become the first international law firm to be licensed by the Ministry of Justice to practice law in

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Facsimile
(99-412) 99-18-05 (international)
or (8-9922) 97-18-05 (within CIS)

Our office will provide legal representation to clients in all principal areas of law associated with foreign investment in Azerbaijan.

The CIS practice of Baker & McKenzie

MOSCOW (1999)
22/25 B. Strochinsky Psc.
Moscow 113054 Russia
Phone: (7-095) 230-6036
Fax: (7-095) 230-6047

KYIV (1992)
48 Bohdana Khmelnytskiyoho
Kyiv 252030 Ukraine
Phone: (380-44) 247-7070
Fax: (380-44) 247-7071

ST. PETERSBURG (1992)
57 Bolshaya Morskaya
St. Petersburg 190000 Russia
Phone: (7-812) 325-8308
Fax: (7-812) 325-6013

ALMATY (1995)
155 Abai Street - 8th floor
Almaty 480009 Kazakhstan
Phone: (7-3272) 50-99-45
Fax: (7-3272) 50-99-75

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LAFARGE: A sharp rise in income in 1998

World leader in construction materials, the Lafarge Group holds top-ranking positions in each of its divisions: Cement, Aggregates & Concrete, Roofing, Gypsum and Specialty Products.

Active in 65 countries, Lafarge employs 65,500 people, generating sales of 9.8 billion euros (64.3 billion French francs). Through its commitment to the development of materials and the advancement of the construction industry, Lafarge brings greater safety, comfort and aesthetic appeal to our everyday lives.

+ 53 %

Sales

+ 63 %

Net operating income

+ 26 %

Net income, Group share

The Board of Directors of Lafarge met on Tuesday, March 9, 1999 under the chairmanship of Bertrand COLLOMB, to close the accounts for the 1998 financial year.

Sales rose by 53% in 1998 to FRF 64.3 billion (9,802 million euros), particularly as a result of the integration of Redland operations.

Net operating income stood at FRF 3,164 million, or 1,397 million euros, an increase of 63%. This improvement, which was felt in all the Group's business areas, chiefly reflects:
■ a higher level of business in Western Europe (except for Germany) and Latin America,
■ an excellent economic climate in North America,
■ a favorable context for prices.

Net income, Group share totaled FRF 3,059 million (466 million euros), a rise of 26%. Net earnings per share were up 19% at FRF 32.30, or 4.93 euros.

At the Annual General Meeting of Shareholders on May 27, an increase in dividend from FRF 11 to FRF 12 (1.83 euros) per share (to which the French tax credit should be added) will be proposed. Shareholders will have the right to take their dividend in cash or in the form of shares. For the first time, shareholders who have retained registered shares for two years will be entitled to have their dividend raised by 10%.

SUCCESSFUL INTEGRATION OF REDLAND

Apart from the strong operating results it posted, another highlight of the year for Lafarge was the successful integration of Redland (FRF 20 billion, or 3 billion euros, of sales; over 18,000 employees). In a period of six months, the Group determined strategies and action programs and put Lafarge organizations and policies into place. As forecast, the acquisition of Redland has already created a highly positive impact on Group results.

PROMISING STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENTS

Looking beyond Redland, Lafarge continued to strengthen its worldwide positions in 1998. Taking advantage of the Asian crisis in particular, the Group was able to seize new opportunities for development, carrying out about FRF 12.2 billion (1.9 billion euros) of investments throughout the financial year.

In each of its divisions, Lafarge reinforced its positions:

- **Cement:** acquisitions in Honduras, South Africa and the Philippines; interests purchased in Italy, the United States and Jordan, and acquisition of several industrial assets in Germany.
- **Aggregates & Concrete:** acquisitions in North America and South Africa, joint-venture agreement in China.
- **Roofing:** purchase of minority interests in Brazil, South Africa and Malaysia.
- **Gypsum:** acquisitions in South Korea, where Lafarge has become leader on the gypsum wallboard market.
- **Specialty Products:** in the United States, developments in lime and in the road marking sector.

PROSPECTS FOR 1999

In spite of the uncertainties affecting the global financial and economic situation, 1999 has begun auspiciously. Trends are positive in Europe and North America, where three-quarters of the Group's business is located.

Following the substantial developments occurring in 1998, the Group (which has now implemented a new organization with five divisions: Cement, Aggregates & Concrete, Roofing, Gypsum and Specialty Products) will concentrate on integrating its acquisitions, lowering its costs and boosting its performance.

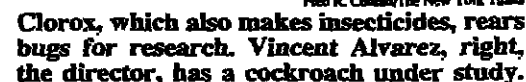
Chairman and Chief Executive Bertrand COLLOMB commented: "1998 was a very good year for Lafarge and 1999 should prove to be another year of progress."

LAFARGE
Materials for
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Internet: <http://www.lafarge.com>

By Dana Canedy
New York Times Service

Then he dumped unprofitable operations such as



By Diana B. Henriques
New York Times Service

A Dragon representative refused to comment on the disappointing quarter, citing Securities and Exchange Commission restrictions in the face of a pending stock offering.

<http://www.ibt.com/INT/FUN/funds.html>

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60	61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	100
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WORLD ROUNDUP

IOC Backs Down
On Voting Change

OLYMPICS A "peasants' revolt" forced the powerful International Olympic Committee executive board on Monday to back down on its plans to strip the membership of their right to vote over who should host the Olympics.

In a move to stamp out vote-buying following the Salt Lake City scandal, the executive board decided in January to set up a special 13-member group to decide the site of the Games.

In what one IOC member described as a "peasants' revolt," more than 40 members made it clear to the board at a breakfast meeting in Lausanne, Switzerland, that they would never accept losing their right to vote.

"Just because some people have been caught taking gifts and cash there is no reason to treat all like crooks," said one person who attended the meeting.

IOC vice president Dick Pound said on Monday that the board had gotten the message and the members would continue to vote on the Olympic bids.

An independent auditor found Sydney's bid effort for the 2000 Games guilty of "numerous breaches" of Olympic guidelines but found no evidence of corruption or bribery. In a report released Monday, Tom Sheridan also said two International Olympic Committee members — Kevin O'Flanagan of Ireland and Niels Holst-Sorensen, a Dane — broke IOC rules.

Sheridan outlined the lavish hospitality and gift giving that won Sydney the Games, but he said that the IOC's rules governing bids were "unworkable and have fallen into disrepair and are almost completely ignored by candidate cities."

Pakistan Is Asian Champ

CRICKET Pakistan dismissed Sri Lanka for 188 in its second innings Monday in Dhaka to win the Asian Test Championship final by an innings and 175 runs.

New Zealand and South Africa drew the rain-affected second test in Christchurch on Monday. South Africa declared its first innings closed on 442 for one at the start of the final day. New Zealand then reached 127 for one in its second innings.

African Cup in 2 Countries

SOCCER Ghana and Nigeria will co-host next year's African Nations' Cup finals, the Confederation of African Football announced Monday.

The two countries replaced Zimbabwe as hosts of the tournament next January because Zimbabwe was behind schedule on the construction of new stadiums and no government financial guarantees had been provided.

Compagnoni Retires

SKIING Deborah Compagnoni, a 28-year-old Italian who won three Olympic gold medals, said she is retiring because of a series of health problems.

Verdict Was Correct:
Lewis Blew His Lead

He Stopped Punching and Deserved a Draw

By Dave Anderson
New York Times Service

NEW YORK — It's being denounced as the biggest robbery since Willie Sutton was the heavyweight champion of bank heists. But for all the complaints about Lennox Lewis's 12-round draw with Evander Holyfield, he robbed himself.

After seven rounds Saturday night, Lewis was in command on all three judges' scorecards: 69-64, 68-66 and 67-66. All he had to do was maintain his

domination, but he didn't. He allowed Holyfield to earn the next four rounds. If Lewis had not won the 12th round, he would have lost on a split decision.

Lewis argued later that, "I felt like I was in complete control," and for seven rounds, he was. But when asked why he wasn't more aggressive in these later rounds, he explained that he didn't want to get "sucked" into the trap he thought Holyfield might be setting for him.

By not being aggressive, Lewis reverted to the chess player he is in his quiet time, something that his trainer, Emanuel Steward, would rather he not be.

Holyfield didn't win the eight, ninth, 10th and 11th rounds as convincingly as Lewis had won most of the early rounds — with a barrage that led to Lewis's overall 348-130 advantage in punches landed — but Holyfield did enough to deserve those later rounds, just as Lewis didn't do enough.

Lewis was thinking instead of punching. And boxing judges have seldom been known to award points for thinking.

"Lennox has a tendency to think too much, to hesitate," Steward had said a week before the fight. "He's a chess player. Sometimes he'll take 20 minutes to think about making a move. In boxing, you don't have time to think. Boxing is instinctive."

Against Holyfield, Lewis's hesitation contributed to the draw that created a dispute instead of an undisputed champion. Holyfield remained the World Boxing Association and International Boxing Federation champ. Lewis the World Boxing Council champion.

I agreed with the draw verdict of the British (and WBC) judge, Larry O'Connell. He scored it 115-115 in points, 5-5-2 in rounds. I had it 114-114 in points, 6-6-2 in rounds.

Stanley Christodoulou, the South African (and WBA) judge had Lewis ahead, 116-113 in points, 7-4-1 in rounds. Eugene Williams, the New Jersey (and IBF) judge, had Holyfield ahead, 115-113 in points, 7-5 in rounds, somehow awarding Holyfield the fifth, even though Lewis pummeled him throughout that round.

Had Williams instead given the fifth round to Lewis for a 114-114 score, the outcome would have been a majority draw.

Although most dissidents questioned Williams's perception, especially of the fifth round, Lewis's manager, Frank Maloney, was more annoyed at a draw. O'Connell, for scoring it a draw.

But whenever controversial scoring occurs, it's fashionable to doubt the judges' integrity, especially when Don King is the promoter.

"Somebody got to the judges,"

Lewis's promoter, Panos Eliades, said with a smirk. "I'm just happy we got a draw instead of a defeat."

King, meanwhile, was already cackling about the millions to be generated by a rematch, even proposing a summer site. "I go where the wild geese go,"

King said. "These guys must fight again. As for the mandatory title opponents waiting out there, I believe that under these controversial conditions, I would have a good argument with the governing bodies for an immediate rematch. The fans want it."

The fans surely would rather see a rematch than see Holyfield against Henry Akinwande or David Tua, or see Lewis against John Ruiz.

But with the personalities and politics involved, a rematch won't be that simple. It took more than a year for King, who is Holyfield's promoter, to come to terms with Eliades, who now has a six-month contract for Lewis with HBO cable television. These people finally put Saturday night's fight together, but they are not friends.

When King didn't supply the letters of credit for the fighters' purses, HBO had to come up with nearly \$30 million for another reason HBO was rooting for Lewis to emerge with all three titles.

Holyfield was guaranteed \$20 million, Lewis \$9.5 million from the pay-per-view profits. But for a rematch, Lewis would surely want as much as Holyfield, say \$15 million each. Lewis might also demand that Eliades be the primary promoter, especially if the rematch were in London.

As for Holyfield, his demeanor in the post-fight interview area betrayed his feelings. While Lewis stood tall, Holyfield sat slouched with a sheepish smile.

Asked about Lewis, Holyfield sounded as if he had lost, saying, "Lennox was great tonight. I have to take my hat off to him. I was wrong about my third-round knockout prediction, but now I'll get another opportunity in the rematch."

Evander Holyfield seemed to know that he hadn't deserved to win. And he would not have even salvaged a draw if Lennox Lewis hadn't stopped punching to play chess.

3 Organizations Order Rematch

The presidents of the three sanctioning bodies for the Holyfield-Lennox bout have ordered a rematch within six months. The New York Times reported from New York.

"It is a shame there was so much controversy attached to this important fight," Bob Lee, president of the IBF, told The Associated Press. "But we did what we thought was the most sensible thing by ordering a rematch in six months."

Lee met with Gilberto Mendoza, president of the WBA, and Jose Sulaiman of the WBC early Sunday morning, right after the fight, and decided to order the rematch.

Also on Sunday, George Pataki, the governor of New York, said he would ask the New York State Athletic Commission to look into the controversial draw.

Pataki said that his administration was working hard to bring championship boxing back to Madison Square Garden, "but it has to be done in a way that upholds the integrity of the game and people's confidence in the sport."



LARA CAUGHT OUT — Australian wicket keeper Ian Healy, left photo, wearing cap, celebrating Monday after catching West Indies batsman Brian Lara out for 213 for the fifth wicket during the third day of the second test match in Jamaica. In right photo, Lara walks dejectedly off the field. He had hit a dazzling 212 not out on Sunday. Australia hit back by removing the last six West Indies wickets for 54 runs.

Snowboarding's Hot, Freestyle's Not

By Steve Keating
Special to the International Herald Tribune

MEIRINGEN, Switzerland — The disco sounds pulsating through the Alps are like an echo from an earlier era. Loud music has always been a part of freestyle skiing events. But the choice of Donna Summer instead of cutting edge rock and rap suggests a sport struggling to remain the epitome of counterculture cool while acting like a respectable Olympic sport.

Disco is dead, and according to Gianfranco Kasper, the president of the International Ski Federation, so is freestyle skiing — in Europe at least. That would make the world championships that make a closed out a troubled season on Sunday a bit of a wake.

"We are very concerned about what is happening with freestyle skiing," Kasper said. "We have to realize that within Europe there is absolutely no interest left in freestyle skiing in its present form."

Once the coolest thing on snow, freestyle skiing — acrobatics on skis — suddenly finds itself as out of fashion as purple bell bottoms, replaced by those new rad dudes on the winter sports scene, snowboarders.

Fueled by a multimillion-dollar fashion-and-equipment industry, snowboarding has taken over the lucrative hip demographic market once cultivated by freestylers.

A telling blow fell at the start of the current season when freestyle skiing's title sponsor moved its money to the snowboarding World Cup.

With no major backer to support its tour, the freestyle World Cup circuit scrapped all its European stops.

Events in Canada, the United States and Japan, where the sport remains popular, went ahead, but a general lack of interest has some ski officials concerned about freestyle's ability to maintain its Olympic status. Snowboarding, meanwhile, has enough cash and sponsors to operate two competing circuits, one run by the ski federation and the other by the more anti-establishment International Snowboard Federation.

Freestyling moved into the sports mainstream when it became an Olympic sport in 1992, but that seemed to force it away from its hotdogging roots.

Snowboarding made its Olympic debut last year in Nagano. But instead of being absorbed into the movement the winter games part of their scene, when Ross Rebagliati, giant slalom gold medalist, tested positive for marijuana, it only strengthened the sport's rebel image.

"In the past 10 years we have really focused on being an Olympic sport and being in the Olympics," said Joe Fitzgerald, the ski federation's freestyle race director. "Meanwhile, snowboarding has taken over the ground we were occupying, that hip youth sports scene."

It's a niche some freestyle officials want back. Once the darlings of the MTV generation, freestylers are experiencing a middle-age crisis, trapped somewhere between the cutting edge of snowboarding and the Formula One sophistication of alpine skiing.

We're in an interesting situation, trying to decide whether we should come back to where we were or perhaps be a little bit more sophisticated like alpine skiing," Fitzgerald said. "We're looking

ing at taking our Olympic events, moguls and aerials, and refining them and making them run better. Then maybe we'll add a few elements that encompass the free skiing movement that has been growing the last three years."

"I think the goal is to come up with new ideas of what you can do on two skis. We're looking at ways to adopt some things they're doing in half-pipe or maybe a ski-type boarder-cross event."

While the championships unfolded in a subdued atmosphere above the Swiss resort, meetings produced heated debate but few concrete solutions.

As the season ended, the ski federation continued to search for a title sponsor and will likely run a reduced World Cup schedule next season.

Snowblades or miniskis, the newest winter sports craze, could also become part of the freestyle portfolio of disciplines as the sport tries to attract sponsorship from the ski industry.

"We haven't been relevant to the ski industry," Fitzgerald said. "We're starting to see what's coming out of snowboarding crossing over back into freestyle skiing."

Freestyle skiers and officials readily admit that they have struggled through a trying campaign, but they argue that, Europe aside, the sport is not only strong but flourishing. Events in North America and Japan attracted large audiences and were broadcast on national television.

Freestyle has established a beachhead in the lucrative Asian-Pacific market. Chinese freestylers have reached the podium in Olympic, world and World Cup competition.

"Why go to places like La Plagne in France where there is never anyone there?" asked Jean-Luc Brassard, a Canadian who won the moguls gold medal at the Lillehammer Olympics. "Why don't we go more to the United States or Japan, where they pay \$30 to watch?"

The athletes are now getting together and putting pressure on the FIS. We look forward to making changes. We know what people enjoy."



Sandra Schmitt of Germany skiing to gold during the women's dual freestyle World Championships.

SCOREBOARD

BASEBALL

EXHIBITION BASEBALL

SUNDAY RESULTS

Seattle 4, Cincinnati 7	Montreal 6, Baltimore 6
New York Mets 3, Florida 2	Los Angeles 9, St. Louis 10
New York Yankees 5, Montreal 3	Oakland 4, Milwaukee 1
San Diego 18, Colorado 7	Seattle 4, Anaheim 4
San Francisco 10, Houston 1	Arizona 3, Kansas City 2
Cleveland 10, Tampa Bay 6	St. Louis 10, Houston 1
New York Yankees 5, Atlanta 3	Minnesota 10, Philadelphia 6
Los Angeles 9, Houston 1	Texas 10, Pittsburgh 6

BASKETBALL

NBA STANDINGS

EASTERN CONFERENCE

ATLANTA	16	7	482	16
MIAMI	15	7	482	16
ORLANDO	12	9	471	4
PHILADELPHIA	12	9	471	4
NEW YORK	12	9	471	4
WASHINGTON	9	12	429	7
BOSTON	7	15	398	12
New Jersey	3	17	350	18

CENTRAL CONFERENCE

INDIANA	15	7	482	16
MILWAUKEE	12	9	471	4
CHICAGO	12	9	471	4
DETROIT	12	9	471	4
CLEVELAND	8	12	429	7
MINNESOTA	6	13	416	9
ST. LOUIS	6	13	416	9
CHICAGO	6	13	416	9

WESTERN CONFERENCE

PORTLAND	16	7	482	16
L.A. LAKERS	16	7	482	16
MEMPHIS	13	9	471	4
HOUSTON	13	9	471	4
OKLAHOMA	13	9	471	4
DALLAS	13	9	471	4
UTAH	13	9	471	4
SACRAMENTO	13	9	471	4

PACIFIC DIVISION

PORTLAND	16	7	482	16
L.A. LAKERS	16	7	482	16
MEMPHIS	13	9	471	4
HOUSTON	13	9	471	4
OKLAHOMA	13	9	471	4
DALLAS	13	9	471	4
UTAH	13	9	471	4
SACRAMENTO	13	9	471	4

SUNDAY RESULTS

New Jersey 95, Toronto 84	Los Angeles 115, Houston 103
San Antonio 108, Dallas 95	Phoenix 108, Sacramento 95
Portland 108, Utah 95	San Jose 108, Golden State 95
Memphis 108, New Orleans 95	San Antonio 108, Dallas 95
Phoenix 108, Sacramento 95	Portland 108, Utah 95
San Jose 108, Golden State 95	Memphis 108, New Orleans 95
San Antonio 108, Dallas 95	Phoenix 108, Sacramento 95
Portland 108, Utah 95	San Jose 108, Golden State 95

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Phoenix 108, Sacramento 95	Portland 108, Utah 95
San Jose 108, Golden State 95	Memphis 108, New Orleans 95
San Antonio 108, Dallas 95	Phoenix 108, Sacramento 95
Portland 108, Utah 95	San Jose 108, Golden State 95

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SUNDAY RESULTS

SPORTS

Southwest Missouri Clobbers Tennessee

Coach Chest-Bumps Team to the Round of 16

By Robyn Norwood
Los Angeles Times Service

CHARLOTTE, North Carolina — Steve Alford walked the Southwest Missouri State sideline with such perfect composure and self assurance, you almost forgot it seems like yesterday he was playing for Indiana.

Then Allen Phillips found Ron Bruton with an alley-oop pass, Southwest Missouri State suddenly led by 23 points, Tennessee called time out, and Alford crashed into Phillips on the court with a chest-bump.

A chest-bump? You don't often see coaches doing that.

"I was shocked to hear more coaches don't chest-bump," Alford said.

Only a dozen years after he won the 1987 NCAA title as a player, Alford is on his way to the Sweet 16 as a coach after No. 12-seeded Southwest Missouri State's 81-51 demolition of No. 4-seeded Tennessee on Sunday in the second round of the NCAA East Regional. His team plays top-seeded Duke on Friday.

Southwest Missouri State knocked off a Big Ten team — No. 5-seeded Wisconsin — in the first round, then pushed aside a Southeastern Conference team Sunday.

The confident Bears played as if it were routine.

"I knew this would be a tough fight," forward Ken Stringer said. "I felt we would win, but not by 30."

Stringer helped get the ball rolling for the Bears at the end of the first half when he nearly lost the ball, got it back and banked in a 3-point shot just before the buzzer for a 36-26 halftime lead.

A 22-7 run at the start of the second half punctuated by Bruton's dunk and all that chest-bumping turned it into Southwest Missouri State's ballgame. Tennessee was never closer than 20 points again.

"The pressure was on them," said Phillips, who scored eight points off the

bench and made two 3-point shots. "They were supposed to beat us. We were the underdogs." He said the coach "told us to go out and play our hearts out."

Southwest Missouri State's defense helped hold Wisconsin to 32 points and 25.3 percent shooting in the first round, and Tennessee to 29.5 percent.

"Today they were an awfully good team and we weren't," said Jerry Green, the Tennessee coach.

Southwest Missouri State made almost 52 percent of its shots, and center Danny Moore led the way with 25 points, making eight of 14 shots after Tennessee made a questionable decision not to double-team him.

Alford, a coach who mixes discipline with fun, said the week of preparing to play Duke would be fun.

"We're going to play a lot of whiffle ball," he said. "Life goes by so quickly. The games go by so quickly. We want to enjoy this time. We're not above or below enjoying ourselves out there."

In the two East Region games in Boston, The Washington Post reported:

Second-seeded Miami and third-seeded Cincinnati, the teams that entered the first round of the NCAA tournament with intimidating reputations, were eliminated in the second round by a pair of underdogs who refused to be sent away scared.

Purdue 73, Miami 63 Junior forward Brian Cardinal had 20 points and six rebounds and senior guard Alan Eldridge added 12 points and an outstanding defensive effort in leading 10th-seeded Purdue to victory over Miami.

Purdue, which lost five of six games before the tournament and, according to coach Gene Keady, had some attitude problems during the second half of the season, was outscored 45-29 and allowed Miami to take 76 shots to Purdue's 38. But the Boilermakers scored the final 15 points of the first half for a 32-17 lead and scored their final 19

points from the free throw line over the game's closing 7 minutes 34 seconds.



Southwest Missouri's Danny Moore hugging teammate Butch Tshomba.

Cardinal said the Boilermakers went into the tournament relaxed because of their late-season problems and stayed that way against a team whose Big East season included victories over highly regarded St. John's (twice), Connecticut and Syracuse.

Temple 64, Cincinnati 54 Junior forward Lamont Barnes scored 15 points and reserve junior guard Quincy Wadley provided an outside spark with 14 points, including four 3-pointers, enabling sixth-seeded Temple to eliminate Cincinnati.

Temple and Purdue will meet in the round of 16 Friday at the Meadowlands in New Jersey.

The Owls put their strength — a tight matchup zone defense — against Cincinnati's weakness — little ability to

shoot from outside. Temple took control with a 23-7 run that began with reserve center Ron Rollerson's only basket with 13:49 remaining in the first half and ended with a 3-point basket from the right corner by Wadley with 2:40 to go before halftime for a 29-13 lead.

Cincinnati, which was making its eighth straight tournament appearance and in November became the only team in the nation to defeat top-ranked Duke this season, was eliminated in the second round for the third consecutive year.

In a game reported in late editions Monday:

Duke 97, Tulsa 56 The Blue Devils, the top-ranked team, became the first team to win back-to-back NCAA tournament games by at least 40 points, with another methodical annihilation of an over-matched team.

Wally's Heroics Propel Miami Past Utah, 66-58

By Lee Feinswog
Washington Post Service

NEW ORLEANS — In the end, it was Wally's World. But along the way, 10th-seeded Miami of Ohio had a few other heroes in beating second-seeded Utah in an NCAA tournament Midwest Region second-round game at the Louisiana Superdome.

RedHawks senior forward Wally Szczerbiak scored 10 of his 24 points in the final eight minutes on Sunday in Miami's 66-58 victory. It was a suitable follow-up to his 43-point effort in Miami's 59-58 first-round victory over Washington on Friday. He made 10 of 10 free throws (six in the final minute and a half), grabbed seven rebounds and made five assists — and this time he had help: John Esnick, a 6-foot-5 (1.96-meter) senior center, matched his season high with 18 points, and Jason Stewart, a junior guard who hadn't scored in double figures in more than two months, made three consecutive three-pointers in the first half and hit another to open the second.

"We just do whatever it takes to win as a team," said Szczerbiak, whose team trailed by 11 points in the first half but nevertheless advanced to the round of 16 for the first time and ended a school-record 23-game winning streak for Utah, which reached last season's national championship game.

Miami's opponent in a regional semifinal Friday in St. Louis will be third-seeded Kentucky, which averted a complete wipeout of the 1998 Final Four by defeating sixth-seeded Kansas in overtime in a game that left Roy Williams, the Jayhawks coach, teary-eyed.

Utah entered the tournament hotter than any other team in the nation except Duke. On Sunday, it didn't matter. Usually a dominant rebounding team, the taller Utes were held even on the boards by the RedHawks, 27-27.

"I don't think they played any harder than us," said Rick Majerus, the Utah Coach. "Perhaps a bit smarter."

Alex Jensen, charged with covering Szczerbiak, limited him to 11 shots, but it didn't matter. "He's one of the toughest guys I've ever had to guard, if not the toughest," he said.

Kentucky 82, Kansas 88 The Wildcats, the defending national champion, were close to joining Utah, Stanford and North Carolina on the sideline. They trailed by five points with 1 minute 29 seconds left in regulation. But senior forward Scott Padgett tied the score at 79 by making a three-pointer from the top of the key with 20 seconds left, and Kansas's Kenny Gregory badly missed an 8-footer from along the right baseline.

Padgett, who finished with a career-high 29 points, then scored seven points in the extra period. "We feel like we've got something to defend and we want to end our careers on a high note and I think we just sort of killed ourselves to the win," Padgett said.

Ryan Robertson, a senior guard who led Kansas with a career-high 31 points, said: "They're not national champions for nothing."

Trailing 79-76, Kentucky's Wayne Turner saw an opening from the left side, drove and then missed a layup. "We had the three-point lead and I was so happy when he started driving because we didn't want them to shoot a 3-point shot," Williams said. But the rebound of Turner's shot went to teammate Jamaal Magloire. He fired it out to Padgett, who caught the ball at the top of the key, waited for Gregory to run past him, then stepped back beyond the 3-point line for the tying shot.

In the other Midwest regional games, in Milwaukee, The Associated Press reported:

Oklahoma 85, NC-Charlotte 73 Eric Martin made six 3-pointers as the Sooners, who upset Arizona in the opening round, became only the third No. 13 seed in tournament history to reach the regional semis.

"Being a 13th seed, I'm sure a lot of teams looked over us," Martin said. "We've beaten great teams all year, and still no respect. But it comes down to just playing ball, no matter whether you're a 1 seed or a 16 seed."

Michigan St. 74, Mississippi 66 Mateen Cleaves scored 18 points, including seven during a late 13-0 run that carried the Spartans, the top seed in the Midwest, to their 20th straight victory.

Coach of Nets Is Reportedly Fired After 3-17 Start

The Associated Press

Monday was a day of uncertainty for the two NBA coaches in the New York metropolitan area. When it ended, it appeared that John Calipari of the Nets was in big trouble and Jeff Van Gundy of the Knicks was not.

Citing unidentified sources, ESPN,

NBA ROUNDUP

the sports cable TV network, reported Monday that Calipari had been fired.

Calipari is in trouble for his team's 3-17 start, and after the Nets lost again Sunday — a 26-point defeat in Miami — he met for 34 minutes with Nets owners Finn Wentworth and Lewis Katz, who had huddled with the team's president during the game to discuss Calipari's status.

Calipari emerged saying the owners just wanted to know where things go from here. But the coach did not accompany the team to Toronto, which did not bode well for his future.

Asked if he had received a vote of

confidence, Calipari said: "No. I hate votes of confidence. Votes of confidence are ugly."

Calipari has two years and \$6 million remaining on his contract.

There have been reports in New York that the Nets have already contacted former Chicago Bulls coach Phil Jackson about taking over the helm.

Nets spokesman Matt Davey said Monday that Calipari was still expected to be on the bench for Tuesday's game.

Van Gundy, meanwhile, was watching the Nets-Heat game when NBC mentioned it would have some Van Gundy news when it returned from commercial. Van Gundy stayed tuned and heard that he would be fired if the Knicks were to lose to the Charlotte Hornets.

Several hours later, his team beat Charlotte 94-86.

"There was no truth to it, it is ridiculous and I'm not going to dignify it with any more comment," New York general manager Brian Grunfeld said.

Kelowna 84, Hornets 88 In New York, Larry Johnson scored 19 points, Latrell

Sprewell had 16, Chris Dudley had his best game of the season with seven points and 13 rebounds and the Knicks closed the game with a 13-5 run.

Allan Houston led New York with 20 points, although he did not score in the fourth quarter. It was just the fourth victory in the last 10 games for the Knicks, whose mediocre start has been marked by an alarming lack of effort and a series of late-game flops.

Kings 105, Lakers 101 In Sacramento, Jason Williams scored 21 points as the Kings ended the Lakers' 10-game winning streak in Los Angeles' first game since Dennis Rodman was granted an indefinite leave of absence for unspecified personal reasons.

Despite 33 points by Shaquille O'Neal and 29 by Kobe Bryant, including 10 in the final period, the Lakers lost for the first time since Kurt Rambis took over as coach from Del Harris in late February. Rambis had tied an NBA record by winning his first nine games.

"That's no excuse," Rambis said of Rodman's absence. "That has nothing

to do with us not winning."

SuperSonics 106, Clippers 89 Seattle's Vin Baker had 23 points and eight rebounds and Gary Payton added 28 points and 11 assists as the SuperSonics shot a season-high 57 percent against visiting Los Angeles.

Wizards 88, Bucks 86 In Washington, Mitch Richmond scored 23 points and the Wizards handed the Bucks their most lopsided defeat of the season.

The Bucks have lost two straight after a six-game winning streak, with both losses coming after a series of trades that sent the starting point guard Terrell Brandon to Minnesota and a starting forward, Tyrone Hill, to Philadelphia.

Suns 104, Rockets 90 In Phoenix, Jason Kidd recorded his fifth triple-double of the season with 26 points, 11 rebounds and 14 assists as the Suns rallied from a 12-point deficit to beat Houston.

Hawks 85, Pistons 72 Steve Smith scored 22 and Mookie Blaylock had 18 on 5-of-9 shooting from 3-point range as Atlanta won in Detroit.

For Philadelphia, a Tie Game With Dallas Is Less Than Stellar

The Associated Press

Holding the dangerous Dallas Stars to a tie usually can be considered a good night. It wasn't for the Philadelphia Flyers.

"We don't need to tie, we need to win," said Eric Lindros, the Flyers'

NHL ROUNDUP

captain, the 1-1 tie Sunday night.

The tie extended Philadelphia's winless streak to 11 games, matching the longest in franchise history. They have dropped from first to fifth in the Eastern Conference.

Mike Modano scored his 30th goal for Dallas. Jody Hull saved the Flyers from a second straight shutout with his third goal of the season.

Red Wings 3, Avalanche 1 Vyacheslav Kozlov and rookie Stacy Roest scored second-period goals as Detroit beat Denver.

Igor Larionov scored Detroit's third

goal, a short-handed empty-netter in the third period. Norm Macaire, getting his second-straight start, allowed only a third-period goal to Joe Sakic to snap the Red Wings' three-game losing streak. He had 21 saves. Patrick Roy had 25 saves for Colorado.

Predators 3, Oilers 1 Cliff Ronning scored on the power play with 1:20 left as the Predators beat the visiting Oilers to extend Edmonton's losing streak to four games.

Rangers 3, Islanders 2 Adam Graves' 40-foot shot with 54.7 seconds left in overtime lifted the visiting Rangers over their New York rival. The Rangers won for the first time in three games as Dan Cloutier, making his first start since Feb. 22, stopped 30 shots.

Blues 5, Blackhawks 2 Pavol Demitra scored twice in a three-goal St. Louis flurry in the first period to reach the 30-goal level for the first time as St. Louis won in Chicago.

DENNIS THE MENACE



IF YOU COULD LIVE YOUR LIFE OVER, WOULD YOU CHANGE? "MY ADDRESS."

JUMBLE

That scrambled word game by Janet Auer and Mike August.

Unscramble these four jumbles. Write the answers in the boxes below. To win your ordinary prize, you must unscramble all four.

TENKO

FLECT

PLUBAR

MAIRDY

What the visitors heard at the oil well.

Answers: "TENKO" "FLECT" "PLUBAR" "MAIRDY"

Internet address: <http://www.ihf.com>

THE WORLD'S DAILY NEWS SERVICE

PEANUTS



IS IT SPRING YET? YOU CAME OVER HERE TO ASK ME THAT? YOU HAVE A BROTHER AND A SISTER AT HOME, LARRY DON'T YOU ASK THEM? THEY GET MAD WHEN I ASK STUPID QUESTIONS SPRING IS NEXT WEEK THANKS FOR NOT GETTING MAD.

GARFIELD



THE AMAZING OPIE WILL NOW ATTEMPT TO READ HIS OWN MIND! SORRY, FOLKS, YOU CAN GET YOUR MONEY BACK AT THE POOR.

BEETLE BAILEY



1. HEAT ON LOW. 2. BREAK EGG. SO FAR SO GOOD COOKE! THE BOOK DOESN'T SAY WHAT TO DO WITH THE EGGSHELL! SAVE 'EM AND SELL 'EM, BUT KEEP THAT UNDER YOUR HAT! STRANGE BUSINESS

BLONDIE



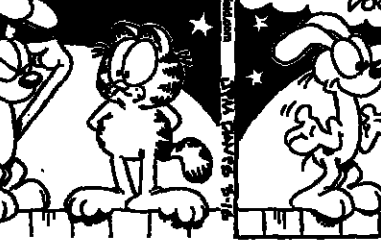
I JUST HAD AN INTERESTING THOUGHT WHAT? THERE WOULDN'T BE ANY TALL BUILDINGS IN THE WORLD IF THEY HADN'T INVENTED THE ELEVATOR YOU INTERRUPTED ME FOR THAT? LETS SEE, GRAY NO LOOKS LIKE BLUE

WIZARD of ID



DID SOME ANTICIPATION OF HAVING SOMETHING IS OFTEN MORE FUN THAN ACTUALLY HAVING IT. I THINK HE'S CRAZY. I HATE WAITING FOR THINGS. I LIKE TO HAVE EVERYTHING IMMEDIATELY. I CAN'T THINK OF ANYTHING I'D RATHER ANTICIPATE THAN HAVE RIGHT AWAY. CAN YOU? DEATH COMES TO MIND. I DON'T KNOW WHY I BOYER TRYING TO HAVE A LITTLE DISCUSSION WITH YOU WHEN YOU'RE ALWAYS SO WORRY.

NON SEQUITUR



AND AS YOUR MARRIAGE BEGINS, THE TIME OF BEING YOUR OWN WORST CRITIC COMES TO AN END.

DOONESBURY



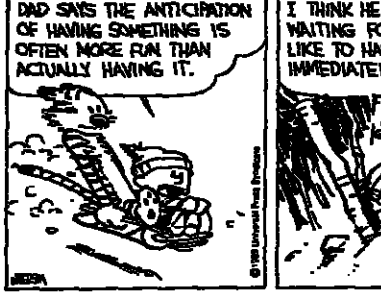
EVERYTHING LOOKS GREAT AT RADIO BOB'S ANNOUNCING READY TO ROLL, HONEY? I'LL TELL YOU THAT I'M AN OFFICER. MATH! THIS IS NO TIME FOR MATH. SURE, HONEY.

REVIEWS



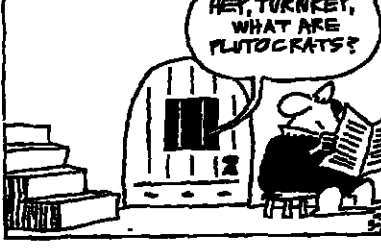
REVEREND BILL ESTABLISHES A NEW WORLD'S RECORD FOR TAKING THE ROMANCE OUT OF A WEDDING

CALVIN AND HOBBS



HE'S TURNKEY, WHAT ARE PLYOCRAFTS? A RULING SOCIETY THAT'S GONE TO THE DOES. I HATE WHAT DISNEY HAS DONE TO THIS MAN.

DOONESBURY



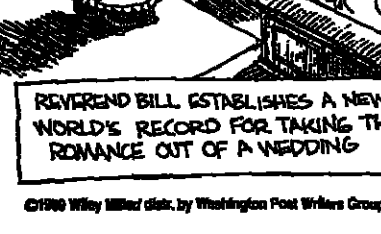
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ART BUCHWALD

DiMaggio Vignette

NEW YORK — I didn't know Joe DiMaggio intimately, but I did know him slightly.

I met him through Ed Bennett Williams, the great criminal lawyer. Ed was a devotee of Joe, and Joe was a hero-worshiper of Ed.

I was witness to one of Joe's home runs — not on the playing field but in a courtroom.

Ed was defending a financier named Louis Wolfson, who was charged with SEC violations serious enough to warrant a jail sentence. The case was complicated to the point that even the judge couldn't understand it.

Wolfson had been tried once, and his case had produced a hung jury. He was being tried again in downtown New York.

Since it was the second time around, the case had low interest and was being heard in an almost empty courtroom, except for a 12-person jury that, after hearing testimony from government witnesses, had practically fallen asleep.

There was a buzz from the jury as Joe walked toward the front of the room, looking as if he was ready to take his turn at bat.

He went up to Eddie and shook his hand, as the jury, for the first time alert, watched the drama. Then Joe shook hands with Louis Wolfson.

The prosecutor objected. The judge wanted to know what the prosecutor was objecting to.

The prosecutor said he was objecting to Joe DiMaggio.

There was no doubt in anyone's mind that after this scene the jury would find Louis Wolfson "not guilty."

How could anyone be guilty of anything if he knew Joe DiMaggio?

Once again, Joe hit one over the fence.

A Chaplin Seeks Redress

The Associated Press

JERUSALEM — A daughter of Charlie Chaplin wants \$1 million from the Israeli lottery for using her father's "Little Tramp" character without permission.

The Chaplin family would never have allowed the national lottery to use the film star's image because her father disapproved of gambling. Josephine Chaplin said at a court hearing Sunday.

"His films have messages to humanity against dictatorship, against war, against hate, and now they're being used to sell lottery tickets. It's despicable," Chaplin said to reporters.

An Israeli court has already ruled that the lottery violated the family's rights to Chaplin's image in an ad campaign begun in 1991. The hearing Sunday was to determine the amount of damages. The hearing is to continue Monday, but a decision is not expected for several months.

Bach 2000: A Musician for the Millennium

By Roderick Conway Morris

International Herald Tribune

LONDON — While politicians still seem able to get excited about the Millennium Dome, among Britons at large the mere mention of this mushroom-like Thames-side eruption is likely to invite groans and satirical comments. Some people can no longer bring themselves to utter the word "millennium" at all and have taken to referring to it as the "m word," and the linguistically challenged have been heard to speak of an alternative, more homely affair called the "minnellum."

Some time ago the conductor Sir John Eliot Gardiner, Joy of the Baroque music revival and now a renowned and highly sought-after interpreter of the entire gamut of the classical repertoire, began to ask himself whether as a musician he should simply ignore the whole business or try to find an appropriate response to it. And noting that the year 2000 marks the 250th anniversary of Johann Sebastian Bach's death, he decided that something really should be done about it.

Accordingly, he has committed himself to performing and recording all 200 of Bach's surviving cantatas, beginning this Christmas and ending on New Year's Eve 2000.

There is no other composer he could conceive of devoting a whole year to playing, said Gardiner at his London home.

"The point is that Bach is the central figure in classical music from the 16th to the 20th century," he said. "He's the composer to which all previous generations of Western composers seemed to have been leading towards. And his shadow fell right across the 18th and 19th century and long into the 20th century. It's difficult to think of a composer not influenced by Bach and many of the great ones — from Beethoven to Schumann and Brahms — were obsessed with him in one way or another as the supreme master of every aspect of their trade."

"We're deliberately avoiding the usual concert hall circuit and playing in more out-of-the-way places. The only big metropolitan centers we are touching on are Berlin, Amsterdam and London, but all the performances will be in churches, chapels, abbeys, priories and cathedrals," Gardiner said.

"I passionately believe in the mutual benefit of music and architecture."

"When you have a beautiful church, or one of importance as a place of pilgrimage, and you put music in it, not only does the music reawaken it, but the music itself is affected by the architecture. The music is enhanced and embellished by the beauty of the acoustic and the musicians inspired by the latent spirituality of the building."

One of the major attractions of doing the cantatas as opposed to the many other magnificent works by Bach was that they could be performed throughout the year on the Sundays and feast days for which they were composed.

"The basic pattern of the week will be very much like Bach's own when he was composing the cantatas — except that we don't have to write them!" Gardiner said.

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"There is something uniquely satisfying about Bach's music," Gardiner added. "It's complex, but the ear can attune to it so easily, and it's no accident that he is the European composer par excellence who lends himself to jazzing, to boogying, having a beat attached to him and being played on different levels without destroying the composition — something you are hard put to do with Mozart, Haydn or Beethoven."

Simply to record all the cantatas in just a little more than 12 months would be a colossal undertaking, but Gardiner has set himself, the English Baroque Soloists and the Monteverdi Choir an ever greater challenge by opting to perform them in churches scattered over the length and breadth of northern Europe.

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